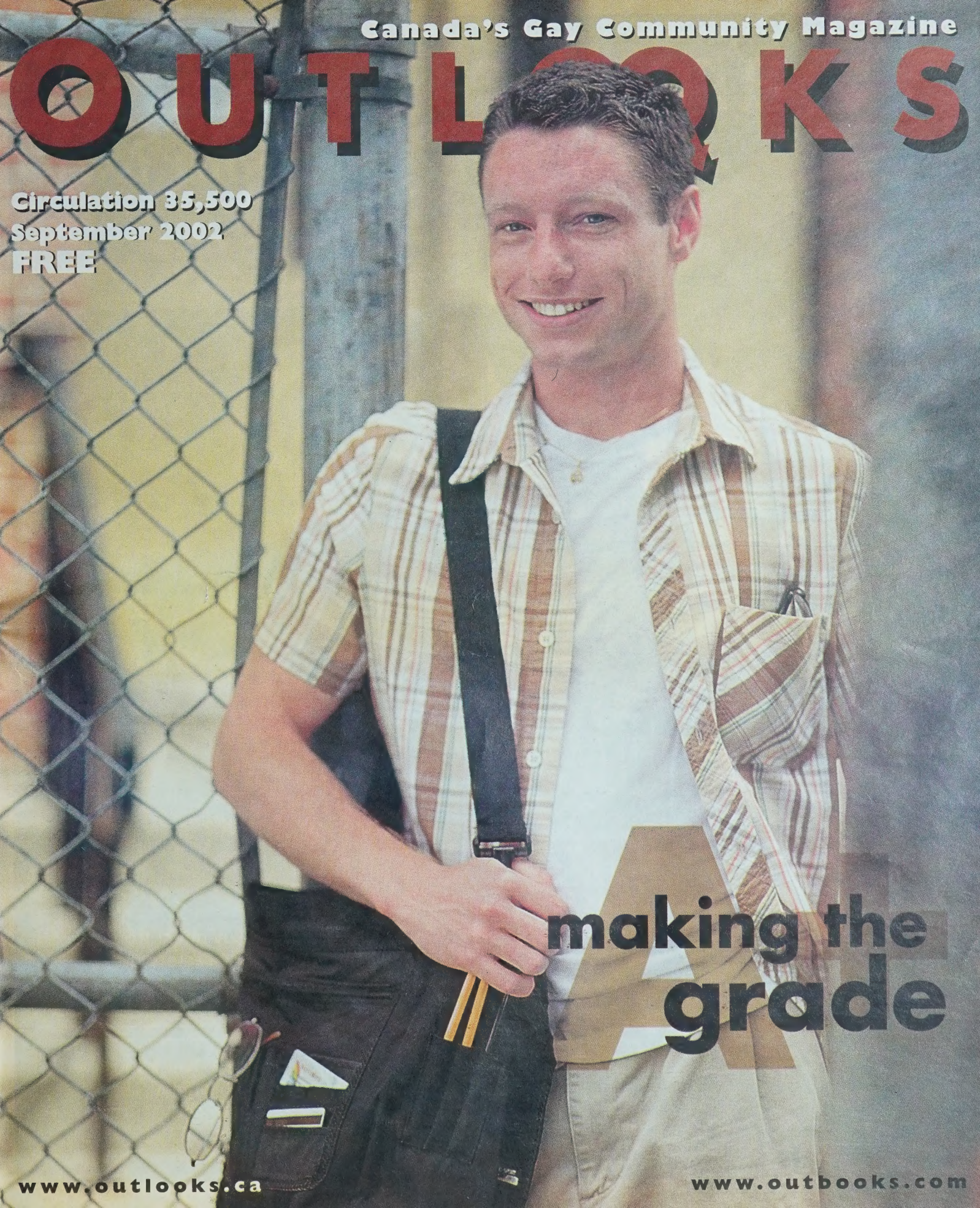


Canada's Gay Community Magazine

OUTLOOKS

Circulation 35,500
September 2002
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A photograph of a young man with short brown hair, smiling at the camera. He is wearing a white t-shirt under a short-sleeved plaid shirt with tan, brown, and white stripes. He has a black tool belt slung over his shoulder, and his hands are resting on the handle of a power drill tucked into the belt. He is standing in front of a chain-link fence. The background is slightly out of focus, showing more of the fence and some vertical wooden posts.

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Cover: Back to...everything!
Montreal's Ryan photo-
graphed on location at an
"undisclosed learning
institution" by Dan Kozma
of Koz Photography

WHAT'S WHERE

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Heritage Minister Sheila Copps takes time out of her extremely busy schedule to chat with *Outlooks* about her ministry and gay issues.



SAND BLAST

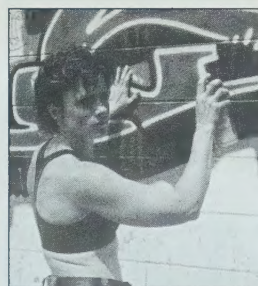
This desert oasis "Springs" to mind when you think of gay friendly winter destinations.

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PERFORMANCE PIECES

Style at Home magazine's style editor Karl Lohnes offers his top ten pics on functional forms for your interior spaces.

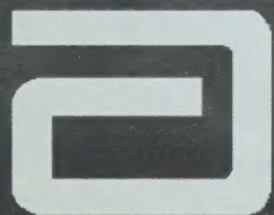


WRITING'S ON THE WALL

There are some great GLBT theatre offerings in Calgary this season, including the Teatro Berdache production of *Quietly Overwhelmed*.

15

September 2002



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LETTERS

Having been fortunate enough to have known Jim and Jack as friends during the last years of their lives, I read the review of the video *Jim loves Jack* (airing on Pridevision Aug. 31) with great interest. Jamie Wilson did a good job of relating the type of relationship that Jim and Jack had. A type of relationship that was illegal for thirty some years until homosexuality was de-criminalized in 1969. In fact, the type of relationship that many heterosexual couples probably yearn for.

Unfortunately, Jamie never met Jim and Jack (simply "J and J" to those of us that knew them). So I would like to add a little if I may. Jamie suggests that James Egan would likely be shocked at the title "Canada's first gay activist". In fact, Jim collaborated in the production of a book titled *Challenging the Conspiracy of Silence: My life as a Canadian Gay Activist*, compiled and edited by Donald W. McLeod, published by the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives and Homewood Books in 1998.

Jim also seems to suggest that Jim never ran for public office. In fact in 1981 "[Jim] Egan was elected as a regional director for Electoral Area B of the Regional District of Comox-Strathcona. He was the first openly gay man living in an openly gay relationship to be elected to public office in Canada. Egan was re-elected twice and served from 1981 until 1993, when he decided not to stand for re-election" (Appendix A from *Challenging the Conspiracy of Silence: My life as a Canadian Gay Activist*).

Jim was not only a gay activist, he stood also for the environment. It was through his efforts as a Regional Board member that Seal Bay Regional Park was set aside as a natural reserve area and trails were constructed to preserve and protect this area. He was also greatly concerned and involved in protecting the natural habitat for the Bald Eagles which are indigenous to this area.

This remarkable couple lived long enough to celebrate their fiftieth anniversary together. I thought my parents did well to maintain their commitment to each other for fifty years plus. I was in awe that, despite the adversity that society threw their way, these two men had reached this plateau. Unfortunately Jim passed away a year or so later, followed not much later by his partner Jack. They lived their lives together till "death did them part".

By the time this gets printed the video will have aired. I hope that everyone enjoyed and felt inspiration from the video. For further reading may I direct you to: *Challenging the Conspiracy of Silence: My Life as a Gay Activist* (ISBN 0-9683829-0-8). And, of course, the Canadian Gay Archives.

Sincerely,

V. Hardingham

Courtenay, B.C. ▼

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The sun shines on Vancouver

By Roy Heale

Some called it the biggest and the best in the West. Others were convinced it was Alberta's alternative Pride celebration, as the sheer number of visitors from this province was overwhelming. Make no mistake: Vancouver's pride festivities in 2002 were, indeed, the stuff of which fond memories are made.

Four of us headed out from Calgary full of optimism that the sun would shine this year for sure. We weren't disappointed. Our arrival on Friday evening was met with brilliant sunshine and a festive mood throughout the West End. During the course of the next two-and-a-half days we visited with as many readers, advertisers and other businesses as

we could manage in this short visit, proudly wearing our *Outlooks* T-shirts all the while. We were truly overwhelmed by the friendly welcome we received. At the Pumpjack, Oasis, Odyssey, Numbers, Dufferin Hotel, The Luxy, The Elbow Room Cafe and the Rapture parties (just to name a few!) we met with readers and listened to their valuable feedback and comments with gratitude and appreciation. Saturday night's fireworks competition, with our own country's spectacular display, was just one of the magic moments of a weekend packed full of excitement.

Sunday's parade, with almost 200 floats and participants, was also a fantastic experience. Marchers in (and out of!) amazing costumes and the diversity of the floats made the whole event a sight to behold. Our own first-time entry in the parade was great fun to build, but even more fun was running behind it handing out over 3,000 copies of *Outlooks* to welcoming hands in the crowd that lined the parade route.

Our booth at the Sunset Beach Festival was also a hub of activity all afternoon; again, we handed out more copies of *Outlooks* and assisted people in filling out applications for our rainbow MasterCard, which benefits the *Outlooks* Millennium Community Foundation. Also, we asked people to complete an informal survey to provide feedback on our Vancouver supplement. Many thanks to all of you who stopped by for a visit; we really appreciate the valuable information you provided.

As a result of many readers telling us that *Outlooks* is hard to find, and that our supplies run out too quickly, we are now providing an extra 5,000 copies of just the Vancouver supplement for the mid-month restocking of our distribution points in the city. We hope this makes it easier for our readers to find us in the future. With a total of 20,000 copies of *Outlooks* in Vancouver, we have now reached our largest circulation for any city in Canada.

Thank you, Vancouver, for hosting such incredible Pride Week celebrations for people of all ages and all interests to enjoy. Also, congratulations to the Vancouver Pride Society on a job well done. It's only eleven months away, but those of us here in Calgary can't wait for next year's celebrations. I'm sure we speak for all the B.C. residents and tourists from across Canada and the United States when we say "thank you" for all your hard work in giving us a great reason to celebrate Pride.

Exhausted, but full of great stories and happy memories, the four of us headed back to Calgary on the holiday Monday, thankful for our short visit and the energy boost it had given us. Congratulations to all of our Vancouver co-workers who did the advance work to make sure that, this year, we were a part of Vancouver's very impressive Pride festivities. ▼



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Publisher Roy Heale
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Assistant to Publishers Kevin Persaud
Copy Editor Michael Wright
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Sales/Marketing Dean Burton
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Distribution DLRJ Enterprises Ltd., Calgary
Legal Counsel E. Nikolaus Homberg
Printed by CALGARY PRESS

National Distribution

Sponsored by:

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Graphics: graphics@outlooks.ca

World Wide Web: www.outlooks.ca

Outlooks is published 12 times yearly. Please send submissions or queries to the mailing address listed above. The opinions expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the staff. Outlooks is not responsible for unsolicited work or photographic materials.



The same-sex debate

Columnist Catherine Ford believes gay marriages will happen in Alberta

By Catherine Ford. Reprinted from Sunday, July 21 with permission from the Calgary Herald.

It seems appropriate on a Sunday to talk about matters of faith and family—because Sunday is the Christian day of worship and some of the loudest objections to gay marriage come from believers.

They are appalled at a recent court decision that the fences erected around the institution to exclude homosexuals are unconstitutional. (Such fences, including "reserving" marriage for one man and one woman, and trying to fob off couples with the idea of a "registered partnership" were clearly never going to pass court muster in a country where the highest moral law is equality of treatment.)

It also is amusing the loudest voices promoting the sanctity of man/woman marriage come from the Christian tradition, which accepted the wedding vows rather reluctantly.

"Catholic scholars believe it was imposed on a reluctant church," according to *The Woman's Encyclopedia of Myths and Secrets*. Indeed, the early Christians condemned the notion of cleaving to a woman. "St. Augustine flatly stated that marriage is a sin . . . St. Paul damned marriage with faint praise, remarking that to marry was only better than to burn."

As for those pious politicians who invoke marriage's "sanctity," it would be best if they chose a word that does not mean "inviolable," or else ensured there was not a divorce blotting their escutcheon.

Regardless of ancient saints and modern poltroons, marriage has evolved in both the opinion of the church and the attitude of the public to something inherently moral and desirable.

And it is. Therefore, why should any couple be proscribed from joining in the foundation of society through the belief their relationship is less valid than another?

Extremists will always argue the morality of their particular position based on divine law, as if that "law" does not change with the time as inexorably as the secular ones. In early Christianity, Syrian churches limited membership to celibate men and baptism to those men still virginal.

With the affirmation of equality and human rights of all men and women, legislation that limits human rights based on arbitrary morality or religion is inevitably struck down.

I cannot understand the argument that letting more couples into the marriage tent somehow pushes other unions out, or makes the sacrament of marriage less important.

If anything, the legalization of relationships strengthens the institution and importance of marriage.

Marriage and the family it creates and the children it protects and nurtures are the cornerstone of society.

"Marriage constrains undisciplined behaviour and offers support and emotional ties that make for the kind of order enabling people to live in close proximity. Marriage is the foundation of community and the means through which involvement in civic activities and church groups is promoted," says Robert Putnam, in *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*. The decline in church attendance and political involvement can be charted by the decline in the nuclear family.

It would seem that it isn't the institution of marriage that should be changed, but the definition.

It is precisely because of its importance and significance that gays and lesbians want to be allowed to marry. And, regardless of the objections of the Alberta government, regardless of the "promise" to use the notwithstanding clause, regardless a slim majority of Albertans are offended by the idea of homosexual unions, it will happen in this country and in this province.

To make the religious, rather than the logical argument: It will happen because God is not exclusive. Never mind many of us were raised in religions that thought their beliefs to be the only ones approved on high. Never mind such religions discriminated against the handicapped, the dim-witted, the slow and unsteady, against anyone who wasn't a perfect human. Never mind women were the prime evil, except for mothers and wives and sisters. Real Christians, those who hear the true message of the Word Made Flesh, understand the complex theology and thinking that believes all people are equally loved by a God who is all things.

This is not a difficult concept.

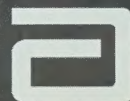
This is also real life, as opposed to fine thoughts from the pulpit on a Sunday morning. This is embracing the next-door neighbours who might well be Adam and Steve. This is making the argument for strengthening marriage, not diluting it: that the more couples who are married, in the eyes of God and of mankind, the stronger the institution is, the happier our society can be, and the more stable, orderly and prosperous we all are.

The idea of blocking gays and lesbians in committed relationships, or even ones who want, like millions of their heterosexual counterparts, to practice a kind of serial monogamy makes no sense.

It's as simple as that. Let everyone get married who wants to. Make it the largest tent we can find. It's the best guarantee of our collective happiness, stability and prosperity. ▼

Catherine Ford can be reached by e-mail at: fordc@theherald.southam.ca

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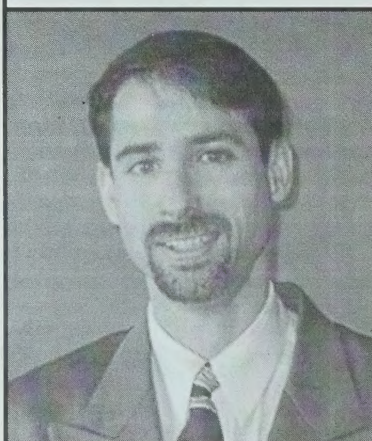


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IN THE NEWS

Moving on...

By Outlooks Staff



Outlooks would like to inform its readers that, after more than five years of service to the publication, our Co-publisher and VP of Advertising, Doug McDougall, has moved on.

The magazine began as a dream—an idea hatched over a bottle of wine in the summer of 1996. Mr. McDougall's vision and tireless efforts helped make the magazine a reality. At a time when equal

rights for Alberta's gays and lesbians were even further behind the rest of the country than they are now, Doug was able to convince an impressive number of advertisers to help Outlooks produce a debut issue in February of 1997.

Over the past five years, Doug McDougall has been instrumental in helping the publication grow from twenty-eight pages to the current forty-eight or fifty-two pages each month. His optimism and belief in the magazine brought us to the point where we are today, and paved the way for even greater expansion in the coming years. He was able to cross boundaries of both community and, in the early days, advertiser prejudice, bringing together such diverse supporters as mainstream garden nurseries and car dealerships with adult boutiques and gay restaurants. As one of the founders of the magazine, Doug will remain connected with the publication in an advisory role as Advisory Publisher. Everyone at Outlooks would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his many positive contributions over the years and wish him well in all his future endeavours. ▼

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Limping towards a legacy

By John Coulbourn

If I ever needed proof that it's easier to take the boy out of Alberta than it is to take Alberta out of the boy, I got it in spades on Aug. 21.

That, of course, was the day that Jean Chretien announced that he will eventually step down as leader of the Liberal party and Prime Minister of Canada—if he lives long enough, that is.

When I first heard that news, (for a single, brief, if not so shining moment) it was as if I'd never left Alberta, as if the past sixteen years had never happened. Despite the fact that over those sixteen years, I've developed a grudging respect, though certainly no great affection for the tough little street fighter from Shawinigan, the news that he was leaving office left me, as I'm sure it left the majority of Albertans, absolutely exultant in a way that most of our fellow Canadians might have difficulty understanding.

In Alberta, grudges die hard. So leave it to the rest of the world to remember precisely where they were when Elvis died; For Albertans of a certain age, it's more of a badge of honour to remember where one was the moment the National Energy Policy was imposed by Pierre Elliot Trudeau and his evil henchmen, one of whom, of course, was the aforementioned Chretien.

Put simply: If Chretien is the last of a dying breed, there are plenty of Albertans who will acknowledge that fact only with a heartfelt "Good riddance!"

And it's only marginally different for gay Albertans or gay, one-time Albertans, it seems to me. For us, the whole National Energy thing is deservedly mitigated by the fact that it was the aforementioned Trudeau who was responsible for kicking the police force out of the bedrooms of our nation and ultimately giving us a lot more room in our closets for things like clothes.

As part of the long-gone Trudeau team, Chretien has traded heavily on his past association with Trudeau's just society, using it as testament to the fact that he is a liberal in both the upper and lower-case senses of the word.

But frankly, that's an image that's gotten more than a little tired over time as Chretien steadfastly and adroitly sidestepped gay issues and controversy at every turn, leaving it to the courts to make the tough social decisions that have been not just his responsibility but his mandate as the elected leader of a "liberal" party.

Today, even if Chretien were to pull an about face on his government's appeal of a court ruling in favour of gay marriages, it would be yet another case of closing the barn door long after the horse has bolted.

When he legalized homosexuality, Trudeau was leading public opinion. He thereby ensured a legacy as a social humanitarian that will remain unsullied long after the National Energy Program falls off the page as a footnote.

Petit Jean, on the other hand, has left things in limbo so long that public opinion, it seems has got ahead of him—the latest polls report that only forty-three percent of Canadian oppose gay unions, while the remaining fifty-seven percent either endorse them or don't care. So, the most he can hope to salvage from this situation is the appearance that he is at least following public opinion—and he's going to have to do it pretty quickly to get even that out of the situation.

For any leader, that's a sad position to be in, but for a so-called liberal and Liberal leader, it's appalling. As a lawyer, as a lifelong Liberal, as a sometimes social liberal, even as a human being, Chretien must surely realize that in waiting to move to the fore on an issue of human rights until the majority of his constituents were on-side he has abrogated any slim right he had to call himself a leader. In the end, it might just be that Chretien's most abiding legacy is in the eighteen months of lead time he's given Canadians between the announcement of his retirement and his actually exiting office.

It is a limited time frame, admittedly, but one that is surely large enough for a committed gay community and its supporters to bring enough pressure and shame to bear on the outgoing government that it will finally allow us to take our place in Canadian society as complete equals.

Just like they've been promising us for years. ▼

John Coulbourn is a native Albertan who lived for many years in Calgary. He now makes his home in Toronto, where he covers performing arts for the Toronto Sun.



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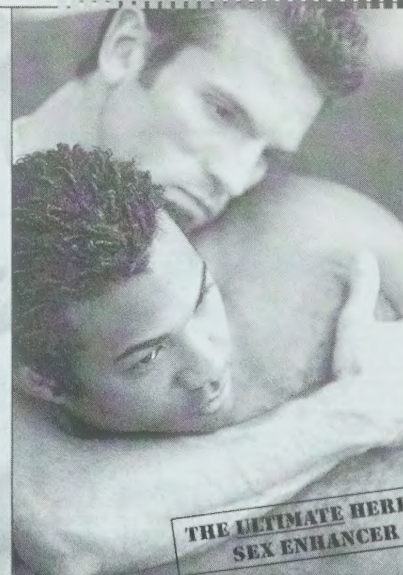
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Go team!

By TJ Madigan

Picture the scene... It's early November, and you're rushing out the door to get to work on time. It's still pretty dark, but the clouds are letting through just enough light to confirm that dull and depressing is definitely the weather order of the day. Looking out your car window as the first raindrops bounce off your windshield, you curse the Canadian weather gods and wonder aloud exactly how summer slipped away so quickly this year...

Well for a group of 700 Canadians, such problems will be a distant memory (at least until 2003!) because come November, the summer will only just be beginning. While most of us are packing away our Halloween costumes for another year (unimpressed that at least ten other people also showed up at the bar dressed as a member of the Osbourne family!) a dedicated group of athletes will be making their way across the Pacific to represent their sport, their country, their sexuality and themselves at the 2002 Gay Games in Sydney, Australia.

'Under New Skies' is the theme for this year's event ('Under Sunnier Skies' would probably be more accurate, but we'll respect their right to use poetic licence and let it slide!) at which over 13,000 contenders from around the world will descend on the city for a two-week extravaganza of sports, friendship, and fun.

So, you might wonder, how exactly do these lucky athletes get chosen to skip two weeks of our winter and instead jet off to a beachside hotel on the other side of the world?

Actually, there's no real selection process. In fact, the best way to get a place in the Sydney Games is to do it the old fashioned way—by joining a team! Well, sleeping with someone on the organising committee would probably work too, but for most Canadian athletes, the road to Sydney begins with an allegiance to one of the nation's four Gay Games factions: Team Toronto, Team Vancouver, Team Calgary and Équipe Montreal. Competitors are obviously free to make the trip independently, especially if the commute to one of the four cities isn't practical (Stand up all athletes in Nunavut!) but most chose to proudly bear the crest of one of the four organisations.

The teams' role is essentially to make life easier for the athletes. Remember, the Gay

Games are literally open to anyone who wishes to compete, irrelevant of age, gender, sexuality or even talent. In theory, you don't have to know a crescent kick from a crescent moon to compete in Martial Arts events, you can be grossly out of shape and still compete in the physique contests, and you can absolutely suck at table tennis, and still ping your pong for all the gay world to see. Of course, athletes generally only make the trip when they're actually decent at their chosen sport, and that's where the teams' role begins.

The teams provide a platform where you can train with your peers in a non-discriminatory environment, develop and gauge your talent, and establish whether you should actually be out on the field or maybe stick to cheering from the stands. They coordinate training facilities, social events and fundraisers, all the while allowing you to meet people who share a passion and enthusiasm for your game of choice.

Going overseas to compete can be a pretty daunting undertaking, but it becomes much less of a burden when there's a governing body that's been there and done that, can help coordinate your travel and accommodation, and best of all, send you over with fellow athletes who not only speak your language, but probably frequent the same bars!

Of course, the team's role goes far beyond moral support and advice—they help breed top Canadian athletes, with an ultimate goal of kicking ass, taking names and winning so many golds that the organisers have to start paying royalties to the composer of O Canada. Make no mistake about it, taking part is the most important thing of all, but winning is pretty damn high on Team Canada's 'To Do' list this year.

One group that's likely to bring home some precious metal is the Vancouver squad, who will comprise almost half of the Canadian contingent. It's expected 350 will make the trek from BC to Sydney, a far cry from their initial (and more conservative) estimate. "We were hoping to send about 150 people over," says Kevin Griffin, the media rep for Team Vancouver "But it just kept growing and growing. We're now sending two soccer teams, two hockey teams, a men and women's baseball team, skaters, physique competitors, dancers, bowlers, a water polo team, the list goes on".

For the most part, the group will be made up of recreational athletes, though there are obviously some who take their sports a little more seriously. One of the most prominent members of the Van City posse is Marc Samson, a former member of the Canadian national track and field team. Samson, whose Gay Games tally includes gold in both the long jump and discus events, is going one step further this time around: he's sharing his experience and skills as the official trainer of the Vancouver crew.

"The only way to get an experience of this level is to make it to the Olympic or Commonwealth Games"; he says, pointing out that if it weren't for the Games, most of the participants would never get to compete at such a high-profile event. "It's all about participation and personal best".

While Samson may have the advantage of years of professional experience, one of his team-mates easily takes the title of Gay Games veteran. Erik Graff, a Vancouver track and field competitor, now in his fifties, has competed at every edition of the Gay Games since the event's inception in 1982. Sydney 2002 will be his sixth visit to the Games, which have brought him to five cities in three continents over the years. And yes, Erik will be putting on his spikes and taking to the track once again come November: There's just no stopping some people...

All indications seem to point towards the strongest showing ever for Vancouver's contingent of men and women, who are anxious to incur serious excess baggage charges because of all the gold they'll be carrying on the flight back to the homeland. According to Kevin Griffin though, his squad has a secondary mission on their trip down under—they aim to be declared the best-dressed team at the Gay Games.

Apparently dressing for success is pretty serious business in the world of competitive sports. "We easily had the best uniforms in Amsterdam," Griffin laughs, before hastily adding the design of this year's kit will remain top secret until the opening ceremonies. There's even speculation that the New York team attempted to contact the Vancouver designers to "borrow" their concepts, but Team Vancouver seem confident they'll come out on top (at least in this one unofficial event) no matter what.

As the countdown continues, the training and hype is beginning to reach fever pitch, not just in Vancouver, but right across Canada. In just eight weeks, those 700 athletes will be getting ready to experience a long, long flight, followed by a once-in-a-lifetime series of events which will put them smack in the middle of the international spotlight, if only for a few minutes.

Win, lose, or draw, our Canadian boys and girls will come home with far more than novelty boomerangs and wicked tans. They'll be packing an experience they'll never forget and memories that will last a lifetime.

Taking part is what it's all about in Sydney. Although then again, some nice shiny medals might help lessen the blow of returning to that cold Canadian winter... ▼

TJ Madigan is a freelance sportswriter with a weekly column that appears in the Calgary Sun.

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Calling the Copps

By David Crosson



Heritage Minister Sheila Copps being presented with an 'tchotchke' by Brian Huskins at an informal Calgary gathering.

The Honourable Sheila Copps is one politician who truly seems to recognize that Canada's majority is comprised of a great many hyphenated minorities, each contributing in its own way to the overall personality of the country. As Heritage Minister, Copps is charged with what is, at times, surely a daunting task: nurturing and protecting the very things that make Canada Canadian. Even though her portfolio is classified as Heritage, it deals much more with the present and future of our nation—something which Copps is clearly passionate about in discussion. The day following Prime

Minister Chretien's retirement announcement, Copps slipped away from the media mob for a quick, exclusive chat with *Outlooks* about her role as a politician, the value of reflecting diversity in cultural institutions and her track record on GLBT issues.

Outlooks: For those readers who may not be familiar with the parameters of your portfolio, could you elaborate a little bit on what your position as Heritage Minister entails?

Copps: Well, in a sense the department was an amalgamation of five different departments, kind of a reflection of Canada. It's culture and nature, sports and arts, minorities and majorities—I think it really is a reflection of Canada as a whole. I'm responsible for national parks, developing and deepening the roots of the country, film and television; it's very broad.

Outlooks: Do you feel certain responsibility as Heritage Minister to try to keep us from becoming too influenced by American culture? Do you think it's important for us to really embrace our "Canadian-ness"?

Copps: I think it's *hugely* important and I think the government of Canada plays a role in that. If you look at the CBC, it's been extremely important in developing an identity that links us from west to east. In the old days, it was transportation that kept us united; now it's really the information system. Part of the department's mandate is to develop Canadian content on the Internet and be the connector between Canadians. For example, we're linking all the museums in Canada; it's pretty challenging, but we're going to be the first country in the world to digitize and put all the collections from our museums up as part of the Virtual Museums of Canada initiative. We're a country that can do it because we have a strong belief that the public sector has a role to play in cultural development. What's ironic is that America is probably one of a few countries that *doesn't* have a cultural policy. However, their entertainment industry is huge and its tentacles are everywhere, so we've really got to fight to keep our cultural voices and faces.

Outlooks: What sort of legacy would you like to leave in terms of your role as Heritage Minister?

Copps: Well, that Canadians know each other better because of the work that we do. Also, I think another important piece of Canadian Heritage should be that it truly reflects the diversity of Canada. When I became the minister, there was a great emphasis placed on the English and the French, and not much about anybody else. We've really worked hard to bring aboriginal people in, and to give gays and lesbians a direct role in the development of Heritage policy. With minority communities in general, we wanted them to feel like they're full partners in Canada—which they are. When you look at something like *PrideVision*—that's one of the things that came out of the mandate I gave to the CRTC, that they should be more reflective of the diversity of Canada. That makes a difference in how people see themselves, not just through books and magazines but through television, which is a very powerful medium for self-affirmation. If you don't see your role models on shows, you feel as though you're not a full partner.

Outlooks: When you were in Calgary recently, Brian Huskins organized an informal gathering that brought you face-to-face with various community leaders, including those from the GLBT community; do you feel it's important to have cultural ambassadors, for lack of a better term, to help connect you with the many communities and cultures that make up our nation?

Copps: Oh, I think it's really important. There's such a bubbling development of cultures and communities across Canada right now, if you have some kind of "ambassador" it really helps you get right to the people. This is absolutely input-based.

Outlooks: Now, I know that when you were at that meeting you referred to the issue of gay marriage as rather a "why not?" situation; that was quite a step for a federal politician, wasn't it?

Copps: Oh, I've always believed it—in fact, in 1982 I was the member to put forth the first piece of legislation on sexual orientation as a prohibited grounds for discrimination outside the province of Québec. I moved the motion in 1982, when we were in the process of amending the Ontario Human Rights Code; I was the critic then. I had no support from my caucus; I was supported by the NDP and had no support in my government. I've always believed that when you speak about equality, it has to be expressed in *all* institutions, including the institution of the contract of marriage.

Outlooks: Have you received much flak about your views, then?

Copps: It's interesting: if you look at where we are now it's amazing how far the country has evolved in the last twenty years. When I moved that resolution in 1982, I basically had things "thrown in my window", things said, letters written. I had a religious person who dropped pamphlets in my riding threatening to 'take me out'. It was very ugly. Nowadays, people are a lot more open and informed. I've been amazed at the positive feedback that I've received. I think the country's a different place than it was twenty years ago and I think television, role models and the experiences we've had in promoting diversity have all really helped with that.

Outlooks: Obviously marriage is not included within your portfolio, so you were speaking out as an individual who believed in something, I take it?

Copps: Well, I think it's important for the next generation to know that we are truly equal. In fact, in just coming out of the Liberal caucus we've had some very passionate discussions about it. I'm very good friends with Laurier Lapierre, who I think was the first broadcaster to declare his orientation back in the '80s. And when Svend Robinson declared his orientation I was right there with him. I was never afraid. As a woman, I'd say there's a definite gender difference in how people view these things and I think women are a lot more supportive—probably because we've been underdogs ourselves. You know, in Parliament you're kind of "on the edge"; even if you are a cabinet minister you're not really perceived as being one of the boys—because you're not! [Laughs] I think the statistics will show that women are more supportive of true equality than men. We've been in the situation ourselves of never having been treated completely equally. Still, I think we're going in the right direction.

Outlooks: Would you care to share your thoughts on the events of the last twenty-four hours and the information that Mr. Chretien has shared with us?

Copps: Well, I think there's an opportunity for the [GLBT] community to basically put its stamp on the issues of the next agenda. We have a great agenda with the prime minister for the next eight months and we are obviously going to have to build an agenda for the future. That's something the gay and lesbian community can play a role in. Certainly, the last election demonstrated that you could move mountains and you could move ridings. And you can move the leadership of the country forward. And I think that's important. ▼

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(right) **Gonna Make You Wet**
Ryan was the man for all your wet wishes. He provided the rain, via a garden hose, for the event.



(above) **All Rev'd Up**
Rev's thirst-quenching specialist, David, at your service.



(above) **Eve of Eden**
Nikki fills out the role of mankind's premiere seductress quite nicely.

(right) **Sharp Shooter**

This east-coaster, wearing his leather shooter holster, had a flare for western culture.



(left) **Harbour Babies**
The boys in Halifax do like their water.

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Photos by: Mike Davies - Halifax

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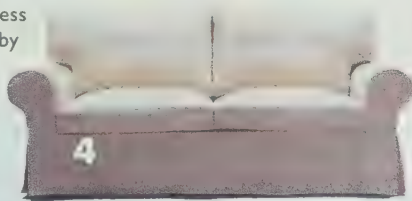
Karl Lohnes gives us the only
list we need for purchasing
furniture for our homes.

By Karl Lohnes



I'm a big believer that making a furniture purchase is like buying a car, or finding a partner—choose it for life. A good quality furniture piece should be classic enough to work with your sense of style whether it's contemporary or traditional. It should also be able to go from one home to another as you move from apartments to houses. Here's a list of top ten pieces that every home needs:

1. The classic slipper chair: (a side chair that has no arms.) The armless feature allows two chairs to be side by side in a sitting room without taking up a lot of space, or be on its own in the corner of a bedroom. It's slim, so it doesn't take up as much space as a regular occasional chair, yet comfortable to sink into and read a book.



2. A six-by-nine Persian rug:

This is the size to invest in. Spend as much as you can afford on this size of rug—you will get so much use out of it. Its size is large enough to sit in front of a sofa, yet small enough to fit in a den, bedroom or even an eating nook in a kitchen.

3. The storage ottoman: The upholstered ottoman with a hinged lid allows for storage, foot comfort and, topped with a tray, it easily becomes a coffee table.

4. The rolled arm sofa bed: A classic shape that will never go out of style and can easily be slipcovered when it's time to redecorate. Make sure that the width never exceeds eighty inches or you may have trouble down the road moving it to another room. With the bed option, you'll always have space for an out of town guest.



5. The five-and-a-half-foot tall armoire: Go any taller and you won't get it up the average staircase. This classic

piece can hold the audio/visual equipment in the living room, act as a spare closet in the bedroom or become the linen chest at the end of the upstairs hall. The classic French Canadian pine ones are always going to look great. Want to make it look taller? Try adding some large wicker baskets on top to add height and additional storage.

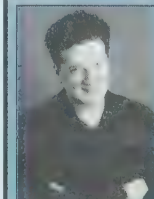
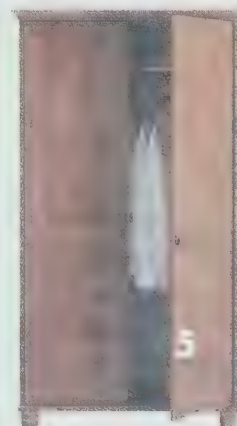
6. The Parsons dining chair: They are comfortable yet modern looking. Be sure to choose a neutral fabric colour because this style of chair is one that you will never tire of. Be sure to buy eight, even if they don't all fit around your dining table. They're just great to have on hand for extra seating. The forty-two-inch high back is the most classic.

7. The Chinese or Sushi screen: Whether it's used to hide away your corner home office, or helps to create a foyer by the front door of an open concept house, the folding screen can (and will) get moved around the house for many uses. Opened flat, it can be hung behind the sofa as art.

8. A round pedestal dining table: Round is best because you can squeeze more people around it (no corners to contend with). A fifty-four-inch round top can sit four to six people and is the most common size, although the bigger the table the better, I say.

9. The vintage trunk: Whether sitting at the end of the bed, being useful as a coffee table or perched in the front hall as a bench, this sturdy, lidded trunk can add a well-travelled look to any home. Just don't fill it with old university books or you won't be moving it anywhere!

10. The swing-arm wall lamp... just like beside the bed at the hotel: It's out of the way, off the table and is available in modern or traditional styling. Use them everywhere around the house to save table space. ▼



Karl Lohnes is the Style Editor of Style At Home magazine, and Co-host of HGTV's This Small Space. He lives and works in Toronto. See Karl live at the Calgary Home and Interior Design Show, September 19-22 at Stampede Park.

All product photos on this page, courtesy of IKEA



Puerto perfection

Collectively penned by D. Freeman, K. Murray, L. Andrews and J. Munson

You know the story about the guy who loved his razor so much he bought the company? We bought a condo instead!

That is what happened when Judy, Lori, Kevin and I spent two years vacationing at the same spot in Puerto Vallarta. We were able to share our holiday time together with a few friends and kept coming back to this wonderful condo complex in Old Town that was owned by a gay American fellow named Mike. Near the end of one of our trips, we noticed that Mike had posted a notice that he had two units to sell. We really liked one of the three-bedroom units in Vista Vallarta, and within two days had committed ourselves to becoming Mexican property owners.

We're not the only ones from the Calgary community who have made the decision to purchase in Puerto Vallarta and all of us have in the backs of our minds that dream of retiring in this paradise. I have made the statement many times, that if and when I fall and break my hip it had better be on cobblestones and not on ice! One of the first things we did as partners in this exciting endeavour was to decide how we wanted to be seen by our potential clients. We had spent time in other condos with make-do dishes, thin sheets and inadequate cleaning supplies. We decided that our place would have sheets with at least a 200-thread count and that we would make it a pleasure to cook in our kitchen. We like the odd cocktail and we know it is nice to drink wine out of crystal glasses and to have decent margarita glasses. So, we got them. We painted the place from top to bottom and did a whirlwind shopping expedition to Guadalajara to purchase mirrors, artwork and dining chairs! We were on our way to helping our friends have an affordable, comfortable home to come to when they visit Puerto Vallarta.

What is it about Puerto Vallarta that has captivated us all for the last six or seven years? It is a gay tropical paradise. Being gay here is a *non-issue*. We have never faced one incident that made us feel threatened or insecure—even late at night. The beaches are clean and manicured every night, the water is warm and almost every type of water sports you can imagine take place all the time. And yes, it is okay to drink the water.

Puerto Vallarta has a new municipal water treatment plant which makes it one of the leaders in clean water among Mexican cities. The attitude of the Mexican people is a huge part of the reason we and other gay and lesbian people keep coming back. There is a great "live-and-let-live" attitude among the locals and they sincerely like their guests from other countries. Spanish is the language here but almost every Mexican knows some English and communication is not a problem.

Puerto Vallarta is in the Tropics and originally was a quaint fishing village on the edge of one of the largest, deepest bays in the world, the Bahía de Bandaras. This huge bay protects the city from many of the tropical storms you hear about that hit Acapulco or Mazatlan. Humpback whales come here every winter and dolphins sometimes cruise alongside your boats when you're at sea. The city is built around a series of excellent beaches and climbs up into the Sierra Madre Mountains around the bay. The quiet of this village was shattered in 1963 when the *Night of the Iguana* was filmed there and Liz Taylor and Richard Burton started their well-publicized torrid affair. The pink bridge joining Liz's house to Richard's still crosses the street and her house is now open to visitors.

One of Puerto Vallarta's renowned sunsets



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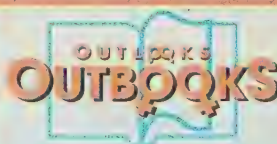
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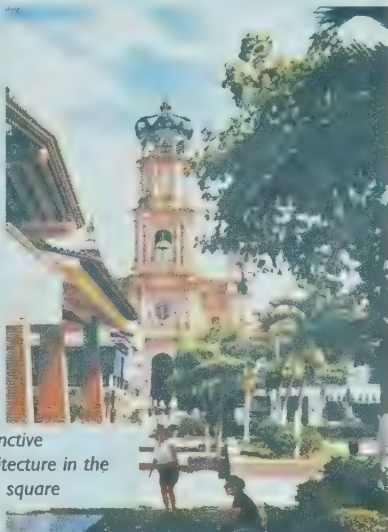
Today, there are numerous gay bars in town and many services for the Gay and Lesbian traveller. Club Paco Paco (info@pacopaco.com) is one of the oldest bars. It is a multi-floored extravaganza with everything from Disco with old favourites and current club music, to exotic drag queens and a quiet roof top bar. The servers are always pleasant. For the late night partygoer, this is one of the best places to see and be seen. Right next-door is Bar Los Amigos with a great outdoor terrace. This bar is quieter than Paco Paco's and has a great ambience with friendly management. On the same block is The Ranch bar with stripper shows, western motif and reasonably priced beer. One of our favourite places to go to earlier in the evening is The Palm (<http://thepalmbar.com>) on Olas Altas street.

Our Canadian friend Mark, originally from Vancouver, owns the Palm. Many women like to come here to enjoy the great drinks, videos and entertainment Mark brings in from around North America. The bar is decorated in hot tropical colours and the sound system is great! Marianne from Vancouver owns Apaches Martini and Cocktail Bar on Olas Altas.

Besides huge drinks, tasty appetizers and her well-stocked bar, Marianne makes every one of her guests feel welcome and appreciated. She also has adopted one of the street dogs, Princess, who now lives on the street at Apaches and whom you will probably find sleeping under your chair while you are having your cocktail. Los Balcones is the oldest gay bar in Puerto Vallarta and features stripper shows most every night. You know the expression "hung like a horse? Well, the men here are gorgeous, too! Just be cautious. A new bar complex on three levels is called Antropology on Plaza Rio. The partygoers here are mostly younger Mexicans and "gringos" are definitely welcome.

Perhaps most famous are the bars at the Blue and Green Chairs on the Los Muertos Beach. This is where we go, day after day, from 10am to 5pm. Nothing to do but watch the scenery—and yes, girls, there is *lots* of scenery for you to watch, too! The food is great on the beach, the beer is cold and when you get too hot, you just run to the water to cool off. Sunsets are legendary in Puerto Vallarta and there is no better place to view them than from the rooftop of the Descanso del Sol Hotel, which is up a zillion stairs from the gay beach. Take a cab if you have heart problems!

Puerto Vallarta is a great destination for gay and lesbian travellers. You will meet men and women from around the world who want to have fun and enjoy this spectacular place. Everyone is friendly and helpful. The food is exceptional, side trips along the coast are affordable and every type of activity you can think of is available. Come join us in our second home and check out our website at www.members.shaw.ca/rodeomen/ ▼



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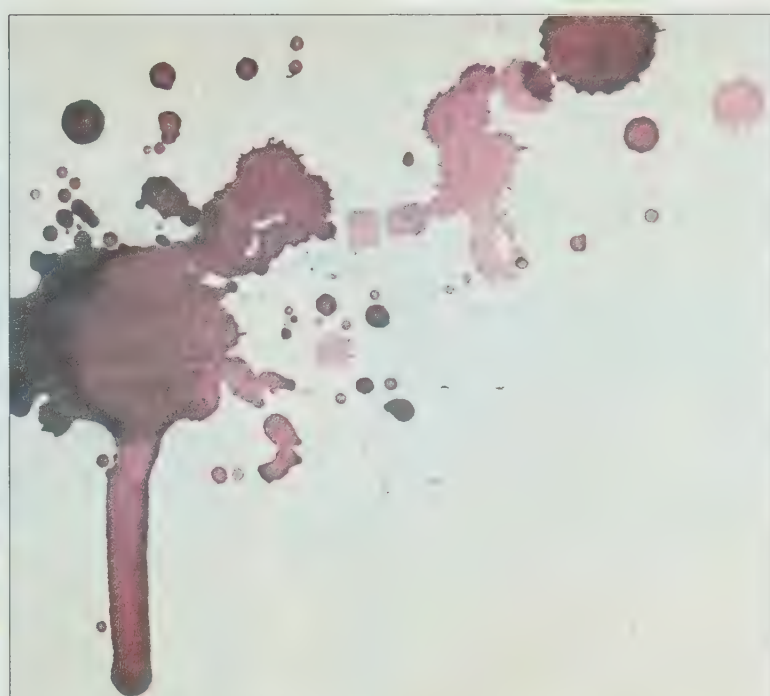
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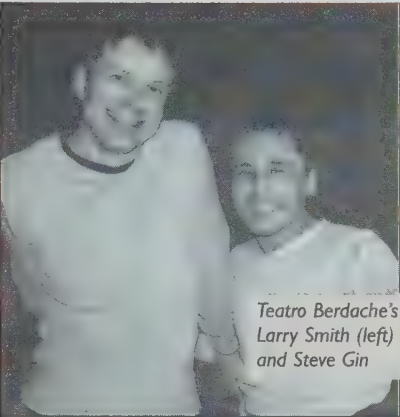
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Overwhelming theatre

By Nancy Jo Cullen



Teatro Berdache's Larry Smith (left) and Steve Gin

I love autumn. For me, it's the time of year when life's cyclic patterns are most apparent—school starts, the leaves turn, organized social clubs kick into full swing, and, most importantly, a new theatre season launches again. This October, queer audiences in Calgary can look forward to seeing two theatre productions that reflect the realities of our experiences: Teatro Berdache's debut of Corrina Hodgson's *Quietly Overwhelmed* and Maple Salsa Theatre's premiere of *The Laramie Project*. Both shows promise to be exciting events for GLBT audiences who are tired of looking for queer subtext in a fervently straight cultural environment.

Teatro Berdache's production of *Quietly Overwhelmed* has been in the works for over a year, after co-artistic directors Steve Gin and Larry Smith were sent a copy of Hodgson's script from Buddies in Bad Times Theatre. The fledgling company, whose mandate is to reflect the diversity of gay and lesbian life, had just put out a call for scripts. Gin and Smith were drawn to the story because of its honesty in dialogue and because it was about something other than oppression in the lives of gays and lesbians.

Quietly Overwhelmed is, as the title suggests, a "smaller" piece of theatre. It explores intimate relationships as well as our relationships to art and landscape. Hodgson was interested in examining "intriguing relationship dynamics", in particular an intimate relationship between a straight man and a queer woman. Her script aims to pull apart the "tidy boxes" that both straight and queer folk would often prefer we remain inside.

The script itself has seen tremendous development from its initial draft at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre to its current form today. It was extensively workshoped with Buddies in Bad Times and received another dramaturgical edit with Calgary playwright Sharon Pollock. Hodgson used the words "wonderfully helpful" in describing the script's development with Buddies in Bad Times—clearly a great place for young queer scriptwriters to find their voice—but feels that Sharon Pollock's female touch was the catalyst that allowed her to synthesize the many drafts of the script into its present form.

Steve Gin is in typically exuberant form when discussing the first play of Teatro Berdache's season, which is sponsored in part by a donation from the Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation. The production is slated to run in the Joyce Doolittle Theatre located in the Pumphouse Theatres, an intimate funky theatre space developed out of the former pump room. The cast represents some of Calgary's finer actors, Laura Parken, Mariette Sluyter (aka *Spinster Girl*) and Larry Smith (okay, he now lives in Toronto but Calgarians can still lay claim to him). Gail Hanrahan will direct the play. If you're not too familiar with local theatre this would be an excellent production with which to test the waters. *Quietly Overwhelmed* is seeing its first run ever, a world premiere as it were. So let me just lay my personal bias on the line here: buy a ticket, support local artists and witness the birth of a play. Who knows where it's going to go, you can say you saw it first.

Maple Salsa Theatre's new season promises to add every bit as much to Calgary's theatre scene as Teatro Berdache's. The mandate of Maple Salsa is to produce alternative theatre from around the world. It is their intention to touch on universal issues while challenging Canadian audiences to see their own humanity through the eyes of different cultures. Artistic Director Javier Vilalta moved to Calgary from Mexico four years ago to further his theatre education at the University of Calgary. It was there that he met the company's co-founders. They began with a bang—as participants in the 2001 One Act Play Festival their production of *Quartett* won both outstanding director and production awards.

This year, Vilalta wanted to expose the work of Venezuelan gay writer Moisés Kaufman to Calgary audiences. Kaufman, who is noted for his fact-based work, divides his time between Venezuela and the U.S. *The Laramie Project* is an ambitious piece of theatre, with eight actors playing multiple roles. Kaufman and his New York-based Teutonic Theatre Project made six visits over the course of a year to Laramie Wyoming, interviewing citizens of the town where Matthew Shepard was kidnapped, beaten and left to die, in an effort to come to grips with the shocking event.

The Laramie Project interviewed over 200 people in the aftermath of Shepard's murder. The work is documentary and the lines spoken by characters in the play are the words spoken by

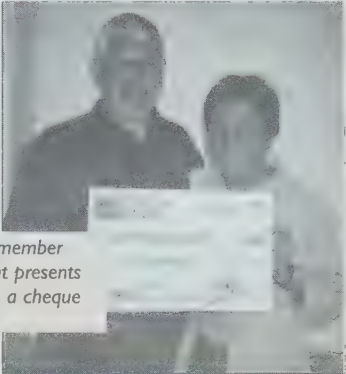
the people of Laramie, Wyoming. The play makes the connection between the attitudes of the town and the two teenaged murderers who acted out these attitudes in their assault on Shepard. It examines the role of communities, not just individuals, in the responsibility of acts of hatred.

Despite the fact that *The Laramie Project* has been filmed and released on video, Vilalta believes it is still relevant to a wider Calgary audience. In its examination of the broader context of such a crime it may just give Albertans a chance to ponder the part their own attitudes may play when it comes to violent acts committed against gays and lesbians. However the story may have evolved on film, it is sure to be different on stage—eight actors will be performing the roles that would have been given to dozens of actors in the film.

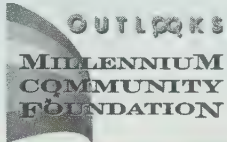
Both shows open early in October. *Quietly Overwhelmed* runs from October 2 to 12 at the Pumphouse Theatres with a gala performance and reception on October 2. Tickets for the gala, which features the harpist Roger Helfrick are \$75 and can be ordered by calling (403) 245-0127. Regular priced tickets run from \$10 to \$15 and can be ordered by calling the Pumphouse Theatre box office at (403) 263-0079. *The Laramie Project* runs from October 9 to 19 at The New Dance Theatre in Inglewood. Tickets are \$10 and can be ordered by calling (403) 670-8882.

This is a chance to see innovative live theatre for the cost of going to a movie. Theatre that promises to be more entertaining than an overpriced box of popcorn while watching the stories of straight folk flickering across the screen. ▼

Nancy Jo Cullen is a poet and playwright and co-founder of Maenad productions.



OMCF board member Michael Wright presents Steve Gin with a cheque



Foundation funding at work in the community!

Money-Pennies

Sunday September 1 Pride volunteer BBQ 3pm	Friday September 20 Karaoke 9pm with Amanda
Thursday September 5 Amy Bishop 8-11pm	Sunday September 22 Bingo
Saturday Sept 7-28 Name that tune	Monday September 24 Open Mike with Jenn!!!
Saturday Sept 14 Rainbow Lambda AGM at noon Richard Denney Happy 50th Party 8pm	Saturday September 28 Team Calgary send off & Car rally 1pm
	Sunday September 29 Bareback Brunch

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(left) Hello, Chaps
Leather folk obviously entranced by some lovely sight.



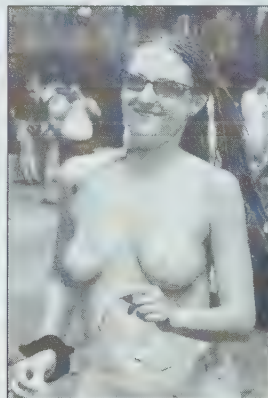
(left) East is East
Members of GLAM—Gay and Lesbian Asians of Montreal dressed for the occasion.

(below) Martyr Complex
A reveller atop a float entitled "Don't crucify us, we're all children of God".



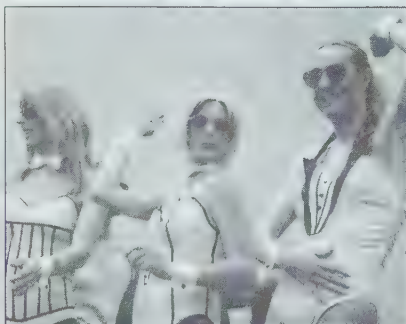
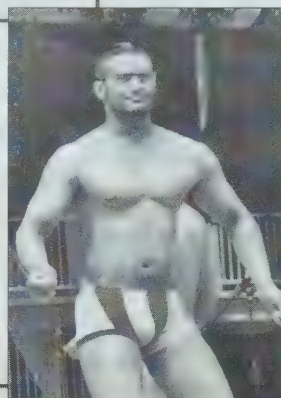
(right) What's he Carrying—Homo Roe?
A vision of loveliness along the parade route.

(below) Can-Can-Do!
Mascara 3, La Nuit des Drags, "kicks" into high gear.

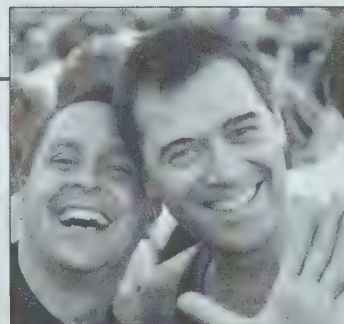


(left) Two to Tango
Bringing a bit extra to dancing in the street.

(right) Buff—our favourite Colour
Dax Dasilva aboard the MAC Viva Glam float.



(above left) Once, Twice, Three Times a Lady
Sisters doin' it for themselves—and the crowd—at Pride 2002.



(above right) Salut!
Luc and Brent, two rays of gay sunshine.

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Fire up the set!

By Outlooks staff

How much time Canadians stay glued to the telly this winter may well be up to the antics of good ol' El Nino. However, one thing is for sure: those with access to PrideVision will want to keep close watch on their sets as the 2002-03 programming unfolds. It's been just over a year since the world's first GLBT network launched its inaugural season, a mixed bag of high art (yay!), low comedy (bigger yay!) and everything in-between, all geared towards the diverse nature of our community. This year's offerings promise more of that same blend, with the return of old favourites and a smattering of exciting new material.



Gagnier, Serapio and Giese: moving on

Fans of PVTV's impressive Brit-com selection will be pleased to hear that razor-witted Irish chat-show host Graham Norton will again fill the airwaves with a cunning blend of one-liners, childish antics and celebrity guests on his namesake show. Among the glitterati occupying the chair across from Great Britain's greatest export will be Dolly Parton, Elton John, William Shatner, Marianne Faithful and Donny Osmond, just to name a few. At the time of press, it was confirmed that the network had secured broadcast rights to twenty-six new episodes. Likewise, the Kathy Burke/James Dreyfus comedy *Gimme, Gimme* will return with all-new episodes. For those unfamiliar with the series, both Burke and Dreyfus are alum guests from the heyday of *AbFab*, as Pats' editor and Eddy's hairdresser, respectively, and work from scripts penned by award-winning playwright Jonathon Harvey (best known to North American audiences for his flick *Beautiful Thing*).

Of course, Canadian content will also figure prominently in the 2002-2003 season. Returning to PVTV for another season is *Bump!*, the J.R. Anderson/Shannon McDonough-hosted travel show featuring gay-friendly destinations, and *Lockeroom*, the sports program featuring Paul Deboy and Paul Bellini (the latter, best known for his work as a series writer for *Kids In The Hall* and co-conspirator on Scott Thompson's novel, *Buddy Babylon*), being both an on- and off-screen contributor. Sadly, due to operating costs, the weekly GLBT newsmagazine *Shout!* has been cancelled. Fans of the show will be pleased to hear that hosts Guy Gagnier and Michael Serapio have moved on to other projects, while Rachel Giese is reportedly staying on with the network to pursue a new current events-style program with a regional angle.

A new contender for becoming a Can-con favourite is *Jawbreaker*, hosted by Brad



Cheeky monkey: Graham Norton with Ivana Trump.

Fraser which is being billed as a kind of "no holds barred" blend of Bill Maher's *Politically Incorrect* and *Late Night with David Letterman*. Fraser, best known for his numerous controversial plays including *Unidentified Human Remains* and *the True Nature of Love and Poor Superman*, is not renowned for being a shrinking violet. Each week, gay and straight, famous and not-so-famous guests will all have a run through the pepper-mill of Fraser's mouth and mind,

debating and dishing everything from politics and religion to sex and fame. Given what many have come to expect of the host's wit and wisdom, *Jawbreaker* promises to be a hoot.

Documentary selection has always been a strong point with PrideVision, and the 2002-03 season promises to not disappoint. Among the titles in the upcoming doco lineup are the North American broadcast premiere of *Little Sister's vs. Big Brother* (see review on page 30), *Life on Christopher Street* and *Prom Fight: The Marc Hall Story*. The drama series set in a women's penitentiary, *Prisoner—Cell Block H*, will also make its Canadian debut on the network.

Whether you're a couch potato or casual viewer, it's clear that PrideVision is building on its promise to reflect the diversity of culture in the GLBT community in Canada and beyond. This is television outside the box and inside our lives. ▼



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(above) Cutting Remarks

Gio's manager Todd introduces special guest Mayor Glen Murray to the crowd assembled at the ribbon cutting ceremony

(right) Credit Where Credit is Due

Gio's manager Todd recognizes Keith (left) and the club's staff for all their long hours and hard work in getting the bar ready



(left) Cut to the Chase

Mayor Glen Murray snips the ribbon, officially opening the new Gio's



(left) Steppin in Style

Ms. Gio's Willyssa Thunderpuss keeps everything in stride as she makes a grand entrance for her performance.



(right) Mommie Dearest

Don't piss off Cassandra Crossing when she's in a Joan Crawford mood. She beat a drag queen with a wire coat hanger, and is that floor clean enough for her yet?

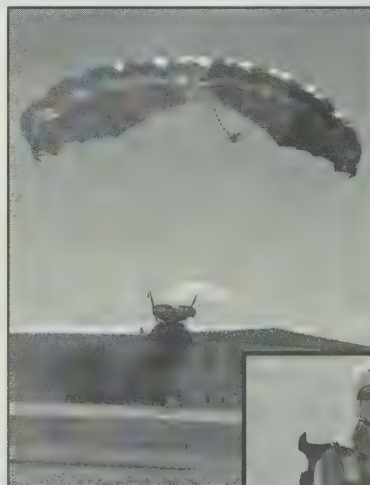
Planning an event in Winnipeg?

Contact Brent at (204) 789-9215 and he'll see about covering it in Out & About. All photos by Brent



(right) Terra Firma

Rachel is all smiles after a successful landing. She was so thrilled, that she did it all again later.

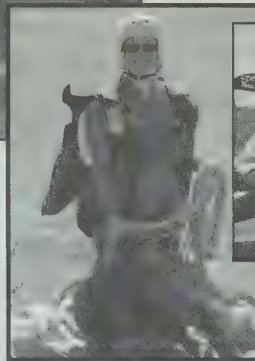


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(left) Smooth sailing

A parachuter makes a perfect two point landing at the Icarus Project.



(above) Am I flying yet?

Jordan and Charlene (bkgd) watch their Dad, Matthew stretch his wings in a pre-flight manoeuvre before taking the plunge.



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Program creates allies, safe spaces on campus

By Peter Carlyle-Gordge

Dale Smith, a counsellor at Winnipeg's Rainbow Resource Centre, has received a grant of \$49,976 from the Department of Justice for a program known as Identifying Allies: A Safe Space Project. Workshops will begin in late September and the hope is that the University of Manitoba campus will become a friendlier, more supportive place for the GLBT community. Smith describes the campus of 23,000 as a "don't ask, don't tell sort of place".

"People just don't feel comfortable being themselves and there has been a steady stream of homophobic graffiti in wash rooms," he says. "The authorities are very cooperative and clean it up once they're notified, but there is still a problem. Two years ago during a student election, several posters were vandalized with homophobic comments."

Smith got the idea for Identifying Allies after hearing about a similar program at Simon Fraser University. He says there are also programs at Queen's, the University of Calgary and the University of Toronto, as well as many at campuses in the United States.

"If you type the words 'safe space', 'positive space' or 'ally' into any internet search engine, you come up with a lot of programs, but they vary a great deal," Smith says. "Some offer workshops and some just offer a badge so that program supporters can identify themselves as GLBT friendly."

The University of Manitoba program will involve two workshops and the production of a manual, literature and follow-up research to assess how the program is working. Smith hopes at least 200 people will sign up, including students, faculty and support workers. The program will work in conjunction with the university's student counselling and equity services departments. Its aim is to educate anyone interested about the effects of homophobia and heterosexism.

"The workshops begin in September and the first will be like Homophobia 101, teaching them about stigmatization and the damage that results," he says. "If participants are seriously committed they can go on to the second workshop and learn how to be supportive, how to challenge homophobia if they run into it and how important it is to be inclusive."

Participants always have a right to opt out of the program, but if they complete it, they then agree to act as program allies, offering support to GLBT individuals, continuing to educate themselves on GLBT issues and intervening if they come across discrimination or hatred. They also agree to display an "Ally—Safe Space" card on their desk or office door and they can wear buttons bearing those words. Through raised consciousness and further education, the aim is to eradicate any oppressive or fearful atmosphere GLBT students might encounter on campus.

Says Smith: "The goal is to create an environment where GLBT students feel safe and free to be themselves. Hopefully increased awareness of GLBT issues will lead to decreased graffiti, harassment and homophobia."

A core group of around twenty-five is already involved in promoting the program, which will eventually be run by the Equity Services and Student Counselling departments, once Smith has finished doing the groundwork.

Rosalyn Howard, of Equity Services, says most people are initially supportive of encouraging campus diversity. "The majority feel you should treat all people with respect and they can see the advantages of having an open, inclusive campus," she says. "The real problem is getting

people to sign up and commit further to doing something. Most people are stressed with deadlines and a million other things to do, so the challenge is to get them past a passive approval of the program to actually signing up and making a difference. For many there are more important priorities."

Howard says overt homophobia isn't a huge issue, rather it's that heterosexism seems to be entrenched on campus, making it harder for GLBT people to relate openly and honestly: "We do have supporters and they come from all areas of the university, including professors and teachers, students and support staff," she adds. "We are pleased with the interest and hopeful it will translate into a successful program."

The Rainbow Resource Centre has also announced that the group Healthy Child Manitoba has approved a \$10,000 grant to help with the costs of the Breaking Barriers in Education Project. It began a year ago with funding from Health Canada and the Winnipeg Foundation, a huge local charitable trust. Project coordinators deliver anti-homophobia training to pre-service teachers in the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba, equipping them with the tools to challenge any homophobia they encounter in their teaching careers. The program encourages them to provide inclusive, positive representations of sexual minorities in the curriculum and tells them how to deal with overt classroom homophobia.

Lisa Passante, president of the Rainbow Resource Centre, says both programs will help the GLBT community maintain important links on campus and she is hopeful the positive support of federal and provincial governments will help the centre eventually get long-term sustainable funding to ensure the educational environment in both schools and universities will become far more positive for GLBT people. ▼

Peter Carlyle-Gordge is a former Manitoba correspondent for Maclean's and The Financial Post. He has written for most major magazines and newspapers in Canada as well as broadcast on the national and international networks of CBC Radio.

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My Time



APOLLO THE DANCE

APOLLO THE DANCE



(left) Shaken & Stirred
Bartender Clinton stirred up some attention by shaking his assets—and no Martinis were involved!

(right) Lords of the Arena
Apollo's Don (left) and Mike (right) with Dennis and Jason (centre). The evening's event was a thank you to all of the members.



(left) Shooting Stars
Phil, May cover model TJ & David tag team the shooter fundraiser duties. They're soon off to compete in B.C. Good luck, boys!



(above) Sirens of Apollo
Kelly, Karen & Gwen stopped to capture the moment.



(above) Huntin' Chicken
Doug proves that English Setters & Spaniels are not the only species capable of this stance. Behind, fellow Ol' Chaps Bill & Brian.



(left) Tickle Tackle
Adam (right) is fond of contact sports. Paul is fond of Adam's fondness of contact sports.

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(left) Congratulations to the New Couple
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(above) Good Stock & a Nice Stack
Luke and the Inukshuk. Both tall and firm with rock-hard bodies.



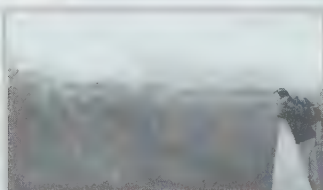
(above) K-Country Elite
Vincent, Tom, Todd, Larry Luke & Ben ready to conquer the Rockies.



(above) A Long Road Ahead
Tom and Ben survey the breath taking terrain.



(left) Fusslin' & Shufflin'
Our friends Tom and Ben keeping to the straight and very narrow.



(above) Hello! Is Anybody Out There...There...There??
Vince looking out at the great and vast beyond.

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IML COMPETITION

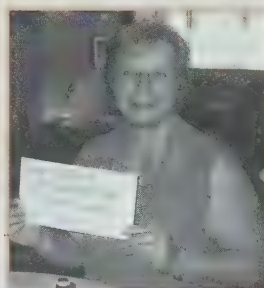
OMAHA, NEBRASKA



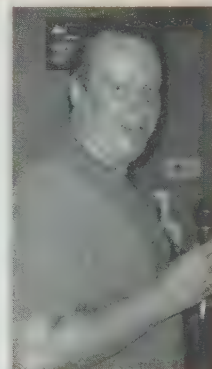
(above) No Bust for Russ
Calgary's own Russ Cosgrove (centre) won International Ms. Leather in Omaha. Russ is the first Canadian to win an international leather title. On behalf of the whole country, congratulations and thank you for being top notch.

CHARITY BINGO

MONEY-PENNIES



(left & Below) Winning Beauties
(left) Richene and (below) Kathleen were proud winners at the daubing event. Winners won "Bingo Dollars" as tender to purchase various prizes. Richene won free ad space in Outlooks.



(above) Baller Caller
Fred did double-duty as caller and host of the event. Proceeds from bingo card sales benefited the Children's Wish Foundation of Canada.



(above) Monkey Business?!
Bar owner, Lorrie, wins a round—fair and square.

(below) This Daub's for You
New member of the Money-Pennies crew, Matt, serves up the drink and the ink.





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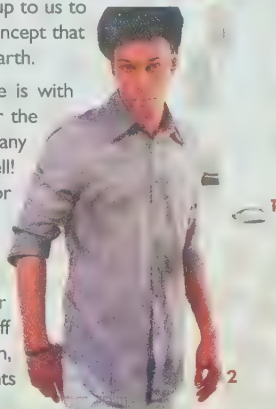
By Steven Rozon

Fashion is the one aspect of culture that everyone is part of even if they don't realize it: good or bad, if you wear clothes it's fashion. Let's go a step further than fashion and lead you on the path to personal style. Some say that style is something that you are born with. While this may often be true, some people develop their own style by following fashion trends and mixing them with things that suit their own lifestyles.

One of the best ways to do this is to develop a relationship with a salesperson you can trust at your local boutique. Whether it's Banana Republic, Holt Renfrew, Gap, or an independent store, after a few trips they remember you and let you know what's new, inform you of items on sale and generally provide you with more personalized service. This advice won't be of much use to you if you only shop once every two or three years. (I don't even *want* to know you if you only shop that often!) Someone has to boost our economy and it's up to us to support the retail sector. We have to promote the concept that we are the most stylish and beautiful community on earth.

One of the best ways to enhance your wardrobe is with pieces that you won't see by the dozen at Banana or the Gap. Retail is a tough business and there are many independent retailers in the country that do it very well! Specialty stores such as Leo in Calgary and Winnipeg or Smyth and Kang in Calgary have an eclectic mix to offer the savvy shopper.

Leo Boutique has been in Winnipeg for six years and opened in Calgary a year-and-a-half ago. Leo takes their clients on a ride that rivals shopping in Europe. The staff is young, hip, forward and friendly. Designers from Spain, Italy and Germany have been researched to give clients the opportunity to shop for beautiful and interesting pieces. Leo's Jon Wiebe says that the mantra for fall is personalized detail. "In the eighties you distressed and antiqued your own pieces where as now it's been done for you. Hand finishing,



According to Jon, the key item for Fall 2002 is shirting in a slim silhouette. Whether in a stripe or with ethnic embroidery, it's the perfect way to update your fall wardrobe. Denim is as strong as ever; engineered, painted or embroidered. Even though it was scarce on the runway at the high-end designer level, the reality is that denim is so much engrained in our wardrobes that it's not going away. Knits are chunky or lightweight with paint and wash details. Low rise pants and flares in all degrees are important. Colour comes in the shades of winter white, camel, burgundy, orange and a *huge* return to black. As one of my friends recently joked, black is the new black!

Entering Smyth and Kang, you will be hard pressed not to buy. From the hot and sultry underwear by Gregg to the varied selection of candles to burn as you seduce your latest victim, it's almost one stop shopping. Oh, yes, you can purchase the perfect outfit to look great in as you acquire the rest of your wardrobe. This lifestyle store has a wonderfully exotic, global feeling. Global glamour would be the perfect way to describe what their buyer Leon is doing with the collections.

The clothing is ever changing because with the low price points, it doesn't last long. This season, Leon has already brought in the perfect ribbed knit cardigan in black, or red and camel. The look of Dolce and Gabbana can be achieved with his faux (that's fake, not fox!) shearling corduroy jacket, a turtleneck and striped velour jeans. Add a long '70s scarf (stolen from your mother's closet) and *voilà*: from runway to reality!

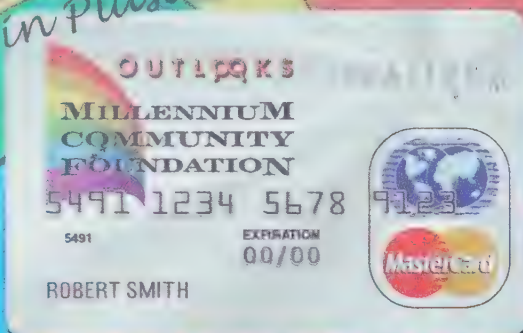
There are many designer-inspired looks to be found: Gucci-like black pants, Roberto Cavalli-like embroidered shirts. Most items hover around \$100 and the shearling is only \$175. The experience is a fun one as the staff does everything in their power to please you.

Chain stores like the Gap, Banana Republic, Zara and Le Chateau are always great for picking up a few items that you know will be 'of the moment' but if you really want to look stylish, shop around and explore what the stores in your city offer. Small boutiques offer two or three of one thing instead of fifty like the chains. I still shudder at the night I was one of three people in a small bar in the same striped shirt! One fabulous new shirt or a great new embroidered jean can take you from wallflower to rockstar! Then you can focus on running for your health instead of running from bad taste! ▼

By Steven Rozon

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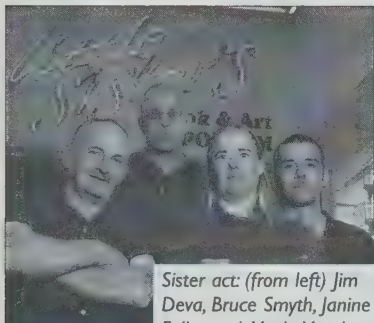
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Little Sister's big adventure

By Pat Johnson



Sister act: (from left) Jim Deva, Bruce Smyth, Janine Fuller and Mark Macdonald

It seemed like the perfect publicity stunt. The day that the 14th annual Queer Film and Video Festival was slated to begin, hundreds of Vancouverites opened their morning e-mails to find an hilariously ironic missive. It seemed the provincial government was threatening to halt the opening night gala screening of a documentary on Little Sister's bookstore's endless struggle against the federal government's censors. Only, it wasn't a brilliant stroke on the part of the festival's canny publicity committee. It was a genuine threat by the provincial government to fine the Capital 6 Theatre if it permitted the screening of *Little Sister's vs. Big Brother*, Aerlynn

Weissman's epic documentary of the bookstore's epic struggle.

The provincial government censoring a film about federal government censorship. Isn't it brilliant? Not only does it advance federal-provincial relations enormously, it provides a heart-stopping reminder that this battle isn't nearly won.

On the face of it, the province had a point. They claimed the film was not "classified" (i.e. rated), for screening in the province. But that is flawed logic, because film festivals, including this one, comprise society members only (a portion of the ticket price covers the cost of membership in a non-profit society), making it, essentially, a private screening. More to the point, the government had not moved on similar screenings over the previous thirteen years of the queer festival, nor had organizers of the renowned Vancouver International Film Festival ever encountered such obstructions. But that's not all that might lead us to think discrimination was at play here. The provincial censors (officially known as the B.C. Film Classification Board) waited until business hours had ended the night before the festival's gala opening was scheduled to issue their threat to the theatre. This, predictably, left the organizers struggling to make sense of the threat and to launch a massive mobilization of the local public, who were rightfully outraged. As the hourly radio news clocked events throughout the day, reports suggested the film might not screen. Eventually, the censors bowed to pressure and allowed the screening to go ahead, but demanded to see copies of eleven other films scheduled for the festival.

By the time the crowd showed up for the screening, they were loaded for bear.

The pent-up anger and frustration was palpable in the room, adding immense poignancy to the content of the film, which is all about a small gay and lesbian bookstore's costly, debilitating struggle against petty, homophobic federal bureaucratic guidelines.

The film is a top-notch chronicle of the legal and regulatory battle Little Sister's has faced almost since the day it opened its doors. It has been systematically targeted by Canada Customs officials who red-flag shipments to the store and find any excuse to hold the costly inventory for weeks or months. Over the years, books have arrived at the store soiled from extensive handling, even dumped unceremoniously at the front door of the store in Vancouver's intemperate weather. Store co-owner Jim Deva says a customs official once told him they leave the material in the lunchroom for customs officials to thumb through over their

meals, searching for obscenity. (Those intrepid bureaucrats never rest.) Even after Little Sister's apparently won a case earlier this year, the practical result of the decision has had little impact on the daily lives of the censors and the store.

Remember, this is not Chapters. Little Sister's is a small bookstore like any other, struggling to make payroll like any other small business. And their financial and emotional resources have been absorbed for the vast part of the store's existence with fighting just to keep books on their shelves.

Still, despite the store's ongoing battle, one might have expected the screening to have been a typical documentary launch, with polite audience members appreciating the fine craftsmanship and the tenacity of the store owners and staff. The reality of the day's events, however, gave added electricity to the gala. The panel discussion after the screening allowed principals and audience members to vent frustration. Deva told the crowd that, in one of the most appalling examples of indiscriminate censorship, one of the first publications to delineate safe-sex techniques, around 1985, arrived at the store with black marks through all the relevant text.

Weissman, the filmmaker, said she was naturally horrified by the turn of events, but she's savvy enough to know a good public relations coup when she sees one. It is easy to sit back as an observer and watch a film about a powerful social issue and then forget about it when one leaves the theatre. The immediacy of censorship's grasping talons becomes immediate when you're not even certain if your Thursday night plans are going to work out.

The passion in the theatre that night showed the unwillingness to have our lives' stories expunged by a censor's whim. The sustained, uproarious ovation received by the Little Sister's folks when they approached the front of the theatre shows the community recognizes—and appreciates—the stand the small store has taken for the rights of the whole community, indeed the whole country. ▼

Pat Johnson is a communications consultant, a reporter with *Jewish Western Bulletin* and a freelance writer for the *Vancouver Courier*, and numerous other publications.



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By J.R. Anderson

If you had no idea that 50,000 people in Canada, have tested positive for HIV, and that it's estimated that an additional thirty percent are infected but don't know it, you should. If you had no idea that HIV infection in Toronto is on the rise and that Toronto has one of the highest infection rates in Canada, you should. If you had no idea that AIDS is still fatal and there is no vaccine or cure, you should. Now, if you knew all that, then you should understand the reasons why participation and donations are needed for the 13th annual AIDS Walk Toronto.

Although 7.5 million dollars has been raised by AIDS Walk, since its inception in 1989, and attendance has grown to an expected twelve to 15,000, the message that this is a fundraising event for people, infected and affected by HIV and AIDS, still needs to be communicated. Richard Bowring, Chair of the Steering Committee for AIDS Walk Toronto stresses that it is a fundraising event for that very reason. "There's a lot of moral support, but not enough financial support. Only two to 3,000 of people participating bring in funds, or donate" he says. Understandably, with the availability now of pledge forms online, it's hoped that a majority of those participating this year will help AIDS organizations, more monetarily than in good will and participation. All the money raised from the walk goes to the AIDS Committee of Toronto (ACT), and then to several smaller AIDS service organizations that don't have the resources to launch a large fundraising event. Reasons for people participating are many, but usually people do so, for friends and loved ones they've lost to the disease, as well as those who have been affected.



living in the time when it first broke out. With the infection of young people in Toronto today, Bowring states, "[Many] don't know and haven't experienced the eighties death syndrome. To them it's just another STD; it's not." It would take you to live in that period of time, to see friends from all ages and stages of your life die, to understand. For it to be common to attend funerals every week or so. To see even that huge muscular truck, from three months ago, wither away and cruise up Church Street in a wheelchair. Bowring's partner, who is HIV-positive, recounted to him the number of funerals he attended in five years, and they exceeded the number that Bowring has attended in his entire life. If the picture I paint is upsetting, it's meant to be, so that those of you who had no idea will understand. None of us of the clubbing generation are living with the epidemic that was presented to the generation before us, but we have no idea how long the cocktail will delay the inevitable. For those who began the cocktail in the early '90s, it's not known how long their life may be extended. It's only a matter of time before the drugs, that helped reduce this disease stop working and life begins to repeat itself. Many of us do understand, we know those that are infected and we see them carry on with their lives. However, as

For some of you reading this presently, there may be a lack of knowledge about AIDS. Not in what AIDS does to those infected or how to prevent it. Many of us of the generation frequenting gay clubs now, have been taught about AIDS, since we basically came of age to go clubbing. However, there is a lack of knowledge in the experience of how AIDS affected our community and what it was like to be

Richard Bowring points out, "What [people] may not recognize is they see this person for four to six hours of their day, but they don't see them in the evening when they have night sweats or diarrhea or when they're throwing up. Or six months later, when they have liver problems or kidney stones." Yes, many of us understand AIDS, but still lack the knowledge of how to prevent it effectively. It's become of greater importance for ACT to advertise safe sex due to the increased infection in Toronto, (the 'Welcome to Condom Country' posters), but some are slow to not get caught up in the excitement of sex, and to realize that the cocktail is not a cure, just a temporary fix. I even realize as I write this, some may get the idea, but many will ignore it, already feeling saturated by AIDS information. So, I guess we have to let those others walk their own path, and hope that the ones who do get it, will help make a difference on AIDS Walk Day.

As much a community event as a fundraiser, the event will begin at Nathan Phillips Square, at 2pm, with check-in beginning at noon. Teams are encouraged, corporate sponsorship is always a benefit and, of course, organizers want everyone to have fun. Live entertainment will be on hand before, during and after the walk and a beer and barbeque garden will be set up at the finish. If you have Sunday, September 22nd free, get some friends together and participate, but, please, bring pledges! Even if it's only ten to twenty dollars, every little bit helps and is appreciated. For more information on registration and the route, visit the AIDS Walk Toronto website at www.aidswalktoronto.org or call (416) 340-WALK. Other AIDS Walk events are taking place all across Canada; for more information on how you can get involved and make a difference, log on to www.aidswalkcanada.com and click through to the link for your city or area. Now that you have an idea, don't run with it—walk with it! ▼

J.R. Anderson, as well as writing for *Outlooks*, hosts the popular gay travel show *Bump!*. A native of downtown Toronto, he enjoys all that the city has to offer, and in his spare time models for print and commercial television.

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In Memoriam

Richard Sneath

1983 - 2002



If ever there was a person
with more love in his heart
for his friends and family
than Richard Sneath, I have
yet to meet him.

We miss you terribly, but the
void your absence has
caused is easily filled with
the love you left behind.

In Memoriam

Barry Hawrelak

April 7, 1960 - Sept. 22, 1993



In loving memory of my partner and
best friend Barry Hawrelak.

For those fortunate enough to have known
him, Barry was filled with love, laughter
and light.

The 6 years that I shared with Barry will
always be a source of amazing memories,
and a time of my life that I will cherish
forever.

After 9 years without him, his spirit and
love still lives on in his family, friends and
in my heart.

Barry, you are truly missed today and
always.

All my love, Grant

2002 Provincial report card

By Lorne Bradley

The *Outlooks* 2002 Provincial Report Card examines the ten provinces in Canada in an attempt to evaluate the progression of gay rights across the country. The evaluation process involves using established criteria to determine which provinces are supportive of gay and lesbian issues and concerns. All evaluations are based on information available in news articles, interviews and supplementary resources. Each province scored a letter grade (A, B, C, D, F) on three criteria. The grades were then combined to rank the ten provinces. The evaluation criteria include:

- **Government:** Provincial laws that exist to promote equal rights for gays and lesbians and the attitude of the provincial government toward gay and lesbian issues.
- **Community Resources:** Resources and events, which support the gay and lesbian community and the accessibility of these resources within the province.
- **Public Support:** Support of the gay and lesbian community and its current issues, such as gay marriage, among the province's general population.

1 - Quebec

Government	A
Community Resources	B
Public Support	A

Quebec's government leads the country in support of the gay and lesbian community. The National Assembly of Quebec unanimously passed Bill 84 on June 7, 2002, allowing for the registration of same-sex unions and permitting adoption by homosexual partners. The province also provides same-sex couples with the same legal benefits and obligations as their traditionally married counterparts. Montreal is the epicentre of gay culture in the province. The city boasts more bathhouses than any other location in North America, and over one million gay and lesbian tourists visit annually. Montreal even features a gay wedding chapel where same-sex couples can be married (federally recognized or not). Gay culture is evident throughout the province, even in smaller towns and cities. Quebec residents also lead the nation in support of gay and lesbian issues. Over seventy percent of Quebecers approve of same-sex marriage.

2 - Ontario

Government	B+
Community Resources	B
Public Support	C

Ontario has been home to many positive developments for gays and lesbians. The provincial government has passed laws granting various rights to homosexuals, including adoption of children by same-sex partners. On July 12, 2002 three Ontario Superior Court judges ruled that the province and federal government are violating the Charter of Rights and Freedoms by denying same-sex marriages (the decision is being appealed by the federal government). Progressive Conservative Premier Ernie Eves has stated that he does not oppose gay marriage. A Catholic high school student, Marc Hall, recently won a court injunction allowing him to bring his boyfriend to a school prom. Toronto is the gay hub of the province—the annual gay pride events attract over 500,000 people. Gay resources are available in most regions of the province. Public support in Ontario for same-sex marriage sits at the national average of slightly over fifty percent.

3 - British Columbia

Government	B
Community Resources	C
Public Support	B

BC's government has generally supported the advancement of gay rights. The province allows child adoption by same-sex partners, and provides benefits for same-sex couples similar

to those offered by traditional marriages. Vancouver is home to the province's largest gay community. Access to gay and lesbian resources is widely available in urban regions. Although more than sixty percent of the population supports gay marriage, some smaller towns in the interior regions have fought against the advancement of gay rights. Terrace, a logging town, recently made national news when it was forced to proclaim a Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Pride Day by the B.C. Human Rights Tribunal after it had initially refused.

4 (tie) - Manitoba

Government	B
Community Resources	C
Public Support	C

Manitoba's NDP government allows the registration of same-sex unions in the province. The legislature passed Bill 34 on August 2, 2002, which allowed gay partners the right to adopt children. One week later, the government held an all night session to pass a law giving common law couples (including same-sex partners) the same property rights as their traditionally married counterparts. Access to resources is available in Manitoba's cities, such as Winnipeg and Brandon. The population's support of gay and lesbian issues is consistent with the national average.

4 (tie) - Nova Scotia

Government	B
Community Resources	C
Public Support	C

Canada's ocean playground became the first province to establish a registry for same-sex couples. For \$15, gay or lesbian partners can register a "domestic partnership" entitling them to various rights and privileges including pensions, wills, medical decisions, property ownership, and child support. In addition, Nova Scotia's highest court recently ruled the province must allow child adoption by same-sex partners. Halifax is home to the largest gay community in the province, and tends to attract gays and lesbians from other maritime regions. The population's support of gay and lesbian issues is roughly consistent with the national average.

6 (tie) - Newfoundland

Government	C
Community Resources	D
Public Support	C

Newfoundland's government passed Bill 36 in 2001, allowing same-sex couples to qualify as "cohabitating partners", providing them with pension rights and workplace benefits. The government also modified the Adoption Act to allow child adoption by homosexual partners. A small gay community exists in the capital city of St. John's. The population's support of gay and lesbian issues is roughly consistent with the national average.

6 (tie) - Saskatchewan

Government	B
Community Resources	D
Public Support	D

Same-sex partners can adopt children in Saskatchewan and have some of the rights of traditionally married couples, including property rights, pension benefits, and insurance rights. Saskatchewan is improving its resources to the gay and lesbian community, but this has proven to be difficult considering the extensive rural regions in the province. With less than half of the population supporting same-sex marriage, Saskatchewan shares the lowest public support of gay and lesbian issues with Alberta.

8 - Prince Edward Island

Government	D
Community Resources	D
Public Support	C

The government has not created legislation to allow child adoption by homosexual partners. In addition, benefits are not explicitly provided to same-sex couples (this is under review). Due to the small population of the province, many in the gay and lesbian community regularly travel elsewhere. The population's support of gay and lesbian issues is roughly consistent with the national average.

9 (tie) - Alberta

Government	F
Community Resources	C
Public Support	D

The Progressive Conservative government of Alberta has continually delayed granting rights to homosexuals. Alberta outright refused to add sexual orientation to its Human Rights Code until the Supreme Court of Canada forced it to do so. Even though the province does allow the adoption of children by homosexual partners (due to a court challenge), it recently passed the Marriage Act which states that Alberta will use the "notwithstanding clause" to prevent it from ever having to recognize gay marriages. Premier Ralph Klein has become increasingly vocal about fighting the progression of gay rights in the province. Major centers with significant gay populations and resources include the capital city of Edmonton and Calgary. With less than half of the population supporting same-sex marriage, Alberta shares the lowest public support of gay and lesbian issues with Saskatchewan.

9 (tie) - New Brunswick

Government	F
Community Resources	D
Public Support	C

New Brunswick's provincial government has amended legislation to allow for support payments between same-sex partners. However, the province does not register same-sex unions, allow child adoption by homosexual couples, or provide benefits for gays and lesbians (with the exception of provincial employees). Gay life in the province resides in the cities of St. John, Moncton, and Fredericton. The population's support of gay and lesbian issues is roughly consistent with the national average.

Regardless of where a province ranked on the *Outlooks* 2002 Provincial Report Card, there is always room for improvement (especially in the community resources category). This article simply provides a snapshot of provincial gay rights and support from coast-to-coast and highlights certain areas that require special attention. Undoubtedly, much will change in the near future, especially as we anticipate the decision of the typically liberal Supreme Court of Canada on gay marriage. A special thanks goes to Bruce E. Walker's law office in Toronto (www.bwalkerlaw.com) for assistance in legal research. ▼

Lorne Bradley is currently studying in his final year of a Bachelor of Science degree. He works as a technical consultant, and is also actively involved in politics. He is pursuing a career as a technology-law specialist. You can e-mail Lorne at lornebradley@telusplanet.net with your comments and suggestions.

IN THE NEWS

Final fundraisers

By *Outlooks Staff*

Team Calgary is switching into high gear with its fundraising activities in anticipation of the upcoming Gay Games. With Sydney 2002 just over two months away, the organization is rolling out three great events in September to help generate some cash to offset participants' expenses.

On Saturday, September 7th, Team Calgary is proud to present Canadian singer/songwriter Lucie Blue Tremblay in concert at the Rosza Centre, located on the U of C campus. Tremblay, a "triple threat" who sings and plays guitar and piano, has proven to be a very popular attraction whenever she visits Calgary, so the evening promises to be a good time for all those who attend. The performance starts at 8 p.m. and tickets are available at a cost of \$20 through The Verge, Money-Pennies and the Rainbow Pride Resource Centre, or may be purchased by phone at (403) 266-5685.

That same evening, the Y-Nots Women's Fastball Team is hosting a fundraising dance at Victoria Park Community Centre starting at 8 p.m. The entry charge for this event is \$10 per person, although those who wish to make an evening of both the concert and dance will receive a fifty percent discount on admission at the door when they show their Lucie Blue Tremblay ticket stub.

The third event of the month will take place on the 28th, with a Car Rally and Athlete Send-off at Money-Pennies. This is the final official event before members of Team Calgary head Down Under to represent their city at the sixth edition of the Gay Games. Be sure to come out and show your support for all of Calgary's participants. For more information or updates on these events, log on to: www.teamcalgary.com. ▼



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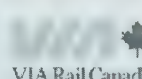
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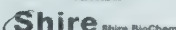
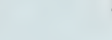
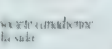
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The battle over censorship in Canada

By Jamie Wilson



Little Sister's owners
Jim Deva and Bruce
Smyth

Those who know me already understand how much of a sucker I am for historical documentaries. Those who know me well may have a more telling commentary, but that's for another time.

In the case of PrideVision's growing history of supporting filmmakers who tell the history of the GLBT community, there's a fast-growing reputation for excellence.

This is especially true when it comes to GLBT history in Canada. Of course, it's relatively easy to grab low-rent old documentaries from other nations. So I'm always glad to see how much the world's first

national queer television station is ready to bring us our own stories.

Little Sister's vs. Big Brother is another shining example.

Anyone who's taken a trip to Vancouver should already be familiar with Little Sister's bookstore. Deep in the village, it's been a landmark on the West Coast scene for about twenty years.

And what a run it's been. Trailblazing, and sometimes set ablaze, it's grown from half-a-dozen sparsely stocked shelves into a queer clearing house of information and support.

But it's the most notorious side of Little Sister's history, which this documentary illustrates. The bookstore has earned a reputation for fighting with the Canadian legal system. And just like every GLBT legal battle, it's been a case of small minds and political cowardice making an easy victim of our community.

Except in this case, the victim was anything but easy.

Almost as soon as Little Sister's opened, Canada Customs began to make a habit of opening, reading and denying entry to book after book; magazine after magazine. But the owners and staff of Little Sister's have never accepted the punishment they were being given.

The show begins in the early 1980s, perfectly illustrating the mass feeling of personal sexual freedom that still reigned in those last few days before AIDS hit full force. Most of us today (even those of you not born at that time) would at first feel right at home in those days. The parades were big, bright and full of joy.

There were leather daddies, twinkies, diesel dykes and all the same sexual combinations we have today.

Looking beyond the uniforms and now dated mainstream fashion trends, you would also see a huge difference in sexual attitudes. Gay sex was the only safe sex. No one got pregnant, and there wasn't much you could catch that wasn't curable with a quick needle at the local clinic.

The literature of the time reflected that growing sexual awareness and exploration. Little Sister's carried books, magazines and other material that explored every option and every fetish. And it did so without judgement, in the most raw and honest way possible.

But as this show illustrates, the anti-queer attitude of petty bureaucrats was quick to step on that spirit of freedom and liberty. Customs agents soon began to unilaterally seize shipments of books coming over the border for the store. Often on the say so of a single, untrained and obviously bigoted agent.

Oscar Wilde, Jane Rule, just about anyone whose material dealt with anything out of the puritanically ordinary had their works banned. And when the store decided to appeal, it could take months before they could be heard.

So Little Sister's fought back, mounting a court action against Canada Customs. The fight was long. And as this documentary shows, it wasn't always easy. By the time the case ended (just a year or so back), Little Sister's and its allies had spent well over \$100,000 to take the case all the way to the Supreme Court.

Even for those who find the legal system boring and dry (despite Dermott Mulroney), this story engages by focusing on the humanity of the fight. Most telling is when one of the store's book buyers comes close to tears, recalling how they've been able to prevent teenage suicides simply by giving confused young people the information that says it's okay for them to be who they are. And when Canada Customs says a book is obscene, how it could be that very book which lets a teen know they're not evil, abnormal, or alone?

Then there's the tale of the many people who found themselves by working at, or simply coming to, Little Sister's. Especially warming is how diverse they are within our community. Begun by two gay men, they quickly realized they needed other viewpoints to truly serve everyone. A lesbian manager soon started, and others of all sexual orientations and preferences followed. In that way, despite the years of sexual and medical fear, despite the never-ending fear of physical harm, and despite the constant fear of censorship, the inner freedom of our community has never been completely beaten down.

If I have one niggling little complaint, it's the music.

I remember the first time I heard the song *Rise Up*. It was a wonderful little Canadian dance tune that was an uplifting call for resistance. But if I watch one more queer Canadian documentary or movie with that song, I'm going to officially turn my back on the 80s.

That said, there's nothing in *Little Sister's vs. Big Brother* that isn't worth the viewing.

The story is a perfect illustration of how and why we must continue to fight against prejudice and oppression. And just like the Little Sister's bookstore's material that let's Vancouver's GLBT population know they're not alone, this is a documentary that let's us know how in each of our own struggles, we're not alone either. ▼

AIR DATES & TIMES

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(above) **Doing Her Nails**
Annette demonstrates her champion style, second consecutive win...for getting hammered?

(right) **EEEEEEH!**
Girl! What are ya doing with that carrot?! One of the competitors in the carrot races.

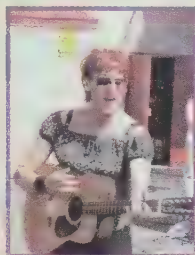


(left) **Getting Fry'd**
MP Heddy Fry joins Scott and Jud under the hot Vancouver sun to take part in this year's Pride Picnic, one of many Pride events that took place this year.

(right) **A Watcher to be Watched**
Every month our man behind the camera sneaks a picture of some unknown 'Eye Candy'. Can you get Diabetes of the eye?



(below) **Go, Speedy, Go!**
It takes a very gay community to bring new meaning to the term "Drag"

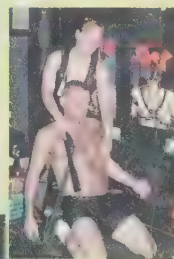
4TH ANNUAL LILITH FAIRY
OASIS NIGHT CLUB

(Left) **Strummin' & Hummin'**
(far left) Vivian Von BrokenHymen and (near left) Kim Kuzma perform for Lilith Fairy, a parking lot event that benefits the various DMS charities. I wonder who got to perform in the handicap spot?

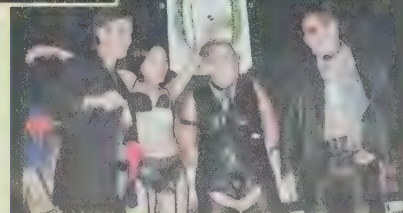
LEATHER DYKE CALENDAR CONTEST
PUMPKACK PUB

(left) **Stealing the Show**
Contestant Robi knows what to grab and when.

(right) **Very Bad Boy—Whipshhh!**
Bird makes it clear to John that this is a girls-only event.



(below) **Britney Bares!**
Jenny's hittin' it one more time.



(above) **And That's Round One—Ding!**
Winners of the first competition. Stacy, Amber, Cal and Toby. These girls will move on to the finals.

Planning an event in Vancouver?

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Photos by: Barry Piersdorf

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By Roy Heale

How could a small oasis in the California desert, with streets named after Frank Sinatra, Bob Hope, Gerald Ford and Gene Autry, become a gay tourist mecca? It's simple when you realize that well over thirty percent of the population of Palm Springs is comprised of gays and lesbians, which gives this lush green neighborhood surrounded by desert a "family" population of approximately 30,000. The rainbow flag can be seen flying nearly everywhere, which means that safety and acceptance is generally the order of the day. With more than forty gay and lesbian accommodations, the GLBT traveller will feel right at home the instant they arrive at the Palm Springs airport, which is located just a few minutes from the centre of the action. It's all here for the vacation-hungry: poolside lounging, fabulous dining experiences and a very hot bar scene. You can do as little as you wish or live it up big-time. In this compact resort area, everything under the sun is available—and the sun itself is a year-round main attraction. With only fifteen to twenty days of rain per year, being able to enjoy warm sunshine on your holiday is almost a guarantee. The months of October through March are the most temperate, with highs between seventy and ninety degrees Fahrenheit, while May through September will take you into the low 100-degree range with a dry, fresh desert heat. Add to this the abundance of swimming pools for daytime enjoyment and the hot nightlife, and you can understand just why Frank Sinatra, Bob Hope, Gerald Ford and Gene Autry "surrendered" to the calling of the gay community.

With a choice of over forty exclusively gay or lesbian resorts to choose from, finding accommodation for your stay is a fun challenge. You'll need a copy of the *Palm Springs and Vicinity Gay Guide* to assist with your selection, or at least take a pre-trip visit to their website (www.ghighway.com). Fortunately, prices and types of hotels vary considerably, so your budget will help narrow down the choices until you find what's right for you.

The Citadel was my choice, as it was conveniently located within walking distance of everything, boasted two large swimming pools, two Jacuzzis, and offered poolside rooms, all with luxury amenities. It was also clothing-optional—a definite bonus in the desert

heat of July, when 128 degrees was the daily high. The Citadel's luxurious rooms, recently renovated, were the perfect home away from home and the friendly, helpful staff was the key ingredient in a recipe for the perfect vacation.

In the Warm Sands area, I discovered three delightful gay hotels: the Vista Grande Resort, All World's Resort and Inn Exile. There are many more, but my time was limited and these three each provided a unique experience for the gay traveller. At the Vista Grande, you can enjoy multilevel tropical gardens, a blue lagoon, waterfalls complete with a ring of fire, lively steam room, three pools and three spas, adult TV channels and much more. This mega-resort is a legend amongst gay travellers and really a must-see, even if only for a casual visit. The All World's Resort boasts "every weekend is an event" and, if you're lucky, you may even be able to watch their latest porn movie in the making. With three pools, three Jacuzzis, a nature walk, steam room and video library (featuring more than 1,000 titles), this vacation getaway is sure to please anyone who likes their vacation hot. Inn Exile is a sprawling, Adobe-style 2.5 acre walled compound with four pools, two Jacuzzis, a complete gym, billiard room and outdoor fireplace. The many other choices are seemingly endless—too numerous to mention here; as I said, finding your ideal accommodation can be a fun, pre-departure challenge. Again, variety is key and all have a variety of price points starting at about US\$80 per night, with specials and seasonal discounts. Be sure to indulge yourself when selecting your vacation accommodation and be sure to check out several others while you're in town, as most offer day passes.



TomBoyz Cafe

At the end of your day poolside, dining in Palm Springs is an adventure and the city has much to offer travellers with discerning palates. An absolute must-dine destination is Blame It On Midnight, with its multilevel dining room, large round cocktail bar and cabaret-style entertainment lounge. The food is inexpensive and casual (featuring an extensive American menu) and the decor is irresistible. The atmosphere is so Palm Springs that you can practically hear Sinatra singing in the lounge! This establishment is "visual" (to say the least!) and the staff is extremely friendly when welcoming tourists. Also close to the bars and nightlife is the very simple Fishermen's Market Grill, where your meal will almost make you forget you're in the desert. Their list of daily catch selections could not be more extensive, and diners are invited to choose the accompaniment for their fruits de mer, as well as how their selection is cooked.



Hot Spot: Hunters.

Discovering your favourite restaurant will prove to be a culinary adventure, as most establishments are within walking distance of the resorts and hotels.

Once dinner is done, it's time for the party to begin. Most of the exciting bars and lounges are within a three-block radius and the primary action centres around Hunters on East Arena Road. Here you'll find a cool, misted patio, a large cocktail bar area and Palm Springs' largest dance floor. Once you've been to Hunters, you'll probably learn about every other bar in town if you strike up a conversation with one (or several!) of the locals.

continued
opposite

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Gay Guide: www.ghighway.com or call (323) 512-2920

Pulp Magazine and the Bottom Line: www.psbottomline.com or call (760) 323-0552

Desert Daily Guide: call (760) 320-3237

The Citadel Men's Resort: www.gayresort.com or call (760) 325-2686

Vista Grande Resort: www.mirage4men.com or call (760) 322-2404

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All World's Resort: www.allworldsresort.com or call 1-800-798-8781

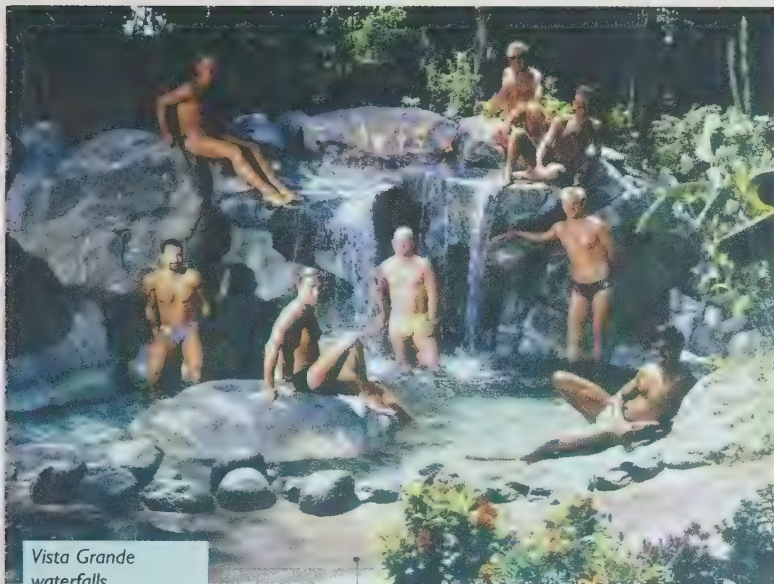
Hunter's: www.pshunters.com or call (760) 323-0700

Blame It On Midnight: www.blameitonmidnight.com or call (760) 323-1200

Palm Springs Gay Information Line: call (760) 318-6331



poolside at the Citadel



Vista Grande waterfalls

In addition, Palm Springs and the surrounding desert area offer visitors a wide variety of unique and tempting attractions.

Some of these include: a twenty-minute aerial tram ride up 8,400 feet to a restaurant at the very top; hot air balloon rides to view the oasis from a few hundred feet in the air; Jeep and covered wagon excursions into the desert; and guided tours to see the celebrity's homes. For those looking to get lucky in more ways than one, four casinos are close by, providing you with a chance to earn some extra spending money for your trip. Whatever you may be looking for, a sojourn to this elegant desert oasis will provide an experience to remember. Whether it's a quick weekend getaway or retreat from winter's snowy onslaught, Palm Springs will provide abundant memories to sustain you for the rest of the winter. Don't forget to pack your water bottle and sun hat for this hot gay destination! ▼

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The Bare Facts

by Brian Huskine



There are very few subjects as passionately charged as that of unprotected sexual intercourse. The "trend", known as barebacking, rears its head from time to time but is quickly pushed back into the shadows. By closing down discussion on the subject, we do a huge disservice.

The fact is that there have always been new HIV infections in Canada and this includes the gay and bisexual community. Aside from those infections resulting from sharing injection equipment, we know the vast majority are from barebacking. Statistics show the number of infections is on the rise.

Learning from the past is perhaps the one thing we can do. The time has come to open the dialogue on barebacking.

For many years, we have heard the safer sex message: using condoms consistently and correctly can prevent HIV transmission. For some, the safer sex message has become an issue of denial and thus the message is dismissed as irrelevant for them.

"I don't know my status and don't want to know. I feel fine and will worry about it when I have to..." is not an uncommon statement. Unprotected sexual intercourse is a choice that some make, some of the time or all of the time. The "Just Don't Do It!" message is not working for many people. Safe, insightful and non-judgmental dialogue may serve to better understand this choice.

We have witnessed the development of effective new drugs and changing funding priorities. Once, infected, people are maintaining their health much longer. Yet, there is a resounding silence when it comes to safer sex messages or programs targeted at gay and bisexual men.

There is no doubt that using condoms and water-based lube is one way to prevent HIV transmission from one person's semen to another person's blood system through the fragile lining of the anus. If everyone practiced this, we would see infections diminish and stop. The statistics reveal that the men's gay and bisexual community continues to skirt the issue, and that unprotected anal intercourse remains an option for some people.

It is easy to adopt the judgmental perspective that barebacking is "stupid" and that only "irresponsible" people would do it. It is a subject laden with emotion and judgment. However, the reality is that those people who practice unsafe sex continue to become infected and will continue to die. The view that unprotected sex is a "bad thing" is broadly supported in the media, by sexuality educators, medical professionals and within communities disproportionately impacted by HIV. Now is the time to bring into the discourse those who do choose the option of barebacking.

The reasons for barebacking are as varied as the people involved. The issues around unprotected sex are no different than any activity that puts a person at a health risk. Age, economic status, self-image, culture, lack of fear and other social issues are but a few. Unless some of the underlying issues are dealt with, some people will continue to bareback.

In this time of medical breakthroughs, longer-term survival and an expanding selection of treatment options, this message to practice safe sex becomes even more important in the prevention of HIV. At one time, the period from infection to the development of an opportunistic infection was ten years or more. We have no real data to tell us what it is with these new medical developments, but it is perhaps safe to assume it is much longer.

The community and those who educate must understand the needs to recog-

nize barebacking as a part of a continuum of sexual choices that more and more people seem to be making. The issues are complex: new treatments and ways to monitor the virus in a person's blood, while improving significantly the lives of persons living with HIV and AIDS, only add to the complexity, as they appear to minimize the risks of unsafe sex.

Groups across Canada have continually advocated for a larger government commitment in the fight against the spread of HIV. That call has gone unanswered and funding remains at the same level as it was ten years ago! In some communities education and prevention initiatives for gay and bisexual men has all but disappeared. How many Canadians need to become infected or die this time around before the issue is back on the table? All groups involved agree that a significant influx of money is needed if we are to find solutions to these emerging challenges.

Another, much more far-reaching issue that needs to be addressed is that of alienated youth.

Speak to a young person today and they will tell you, "There is nothing fun for us—we should not smoke, we should not go out in the sun, fast food is bad for us, we should not drink. Even sex can kill us!" In an era of intensive direct marketing in which sex is the sizzle, these words resonate! Yet, at the same time we give very loud "No sex!" or "Safer sex!" messages. Those of an earlier generation recount their experience of sexual freedom before AIDS. Partying, drinking and experimentation were a big part of the rock and disco cultures. Many young people, including gay, lesbian or bisexual youth, feel short-changed and that the fun things are now taboo or politically incorrect. In a culture that still recognizes youth and the image of health as a measure of individual worth, the implications that barebacking could destroy both your health and your beauty should be obvious.

There is a significant rise in HIV infection among youth. Perhaps we need to look at some of the reasons for this—not the least of which may be a general loss of hope among younger people. At one time you were relatively sure when you finished high school, college or university there would be a job where you could apply your skills and earn a living. At some point, you could count on owning a car or buying a home. It was a matter of time. For many young people this lifestyle is a far off dream. Even the possibility of renting a decent apartment on ones own is unattainable! The hopeful anticipation of the future just doesn't exist for some youth.

At one time, parents and those grown ups around a young person delivered messages of personal safety and behaviour. "Don't smoke", "Don't drink", "Don't have sex until you are married!" and "Don't do drugs!" were among many messages we received and were (sometimes) reinforced within peer groups. Somewhere along the way, a paradigm shift took place. We all got busy. In that busy-ness, the messages are delivered in a very different way and through a different medium. Once delivered by parents, the messages are now delivered in a public way through the media. Where once a frowning parent was what kids had to worry about at 3 am, it is now often a more detached source for this censure that the young people of today experience.

The challenge is for us to understand the impact of this and engage youth in a way that gives them hope for the future. This holds true in the gay, lesbian and bisexual community. Mentoring programs, safe spaces and open, honest communication about real issues will build a hopeful future. ▼



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September is poised for change and reappraisal. Mars has just settled in practical Virgo and will infuse our lives with a clear cut vision of what needs to be done. Meanwhile, Venus will move into intense Scorpio on the ninth and will guide our passions to produce tangible, successful results. Let us remember the past year and rebuild our towers this September.

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

Any strictly sexual relationship will have the potential to reach a deeper psychic level of understanding this September thanks to the machinations of Venus in Scorpio. Mars meanwhile will stir the pot at work and increase your commitment to the job. A little elbow grease applied in the right areas will produce swell results gay Ram. Don't delay! You may even get a raise...or is it a rise?

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

Queer Bulls will be in their element this September as lovers and other partners will bring you great delight and heavy-duty fun. Venus will suggest that you overlook nit picky problems in your relationship and enjoy it for its fullness. Mars, in the meantime, will pour a little gasoline on your friendly flame. Don't singe yourself in the merriment; save something for a rainy day, cousin.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Your job prospects will look especially good this September. Mars will sit in practical Virgo and will test the limits of your comfort for risk while Venus will encourage you to take another look at current responsibilities to make the most of them. In other words, friend, pink Twins will need to set their sights on their personal surroundings. Let's add a bit of lavender to that grey cubicle, shall we?

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Those who didn't measure up to your high standards in August will begin to look pretty darn good in September. Get new glasses? No, it's Venus refocusing your attentions. Pink Crabs will take things to the next hot step with a furtive saucy word or two. Mars will help you speak from your heart...or perhaps a bit lower down. Will they respect you in the morning? Do you care?

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

Any choppy waters at home will reach a peaceful lull in September. Venus will provide happy times, pleasant thoughts and a desire to reach familial accord. Set things queer with relatives, proud Lion, but don't compromise. Use Mars in careful yet earthy Virgo to solidify finances and fluff up all creature comforts. You are the king of beasts and need a palace not a cage.

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

Queer Virgins will be more eloquent than usual thanks to Venus, which turns past gaffs into bon mots and learned nuggets. You'll be able to charm just about anyone after the ninth. Put this planetary advantage to good use in any new venture and among groups of new influential folks. Mars will gleefully push you into the limelight ready or not! Get ready for some action, Jackson.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

Hard work will bring monetary rewards for all serious gay Libras this September. Worries about finances will pass as Venus sheds a little golden light on your tin bank account. Mars in Virgo revs up your pride and gives an amplifier to your inner, intuitive voice. Listen carefully compadre; affirmation will be in the air. You just need to know how to steer it to your personal windmill.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

Proud Scorpions can put their best claw forward in September as Venus in delicious Scorpio will have you oozing considerable charisma and charm. Too much is never enough, so make the most of this delightful energy by sharing it with pals at every party in town. Mars in Virgo will plant you in the best hot spots with the best hotties. Whew! Who turned up the temperature?

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

September will be an excellent time to attend to spiritual matters and extend your Out reach to the community. Queer Archers will be blessed with a keen intuitive sense and infused with the desire to "do good" now. Do it with passion! Mars in Virgo will try to find balance between what you really want and what you really need. The real question is, "Can you tell the difference?"

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

Friends will stir up all sorts of happy mischief this September thanks to the combination of sassy Venus and feisty Mars. Plan some jolly get-togethers with a few wilde Bills and toss in a couple of surprises to keep things interesting. See if one or two of your old cast-offs are worth another look. Pink Caps may find a gem among the trash. Or maybe you're into trash...

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

The quest for money and the power and the prestige you think it can buy will be an enticing temptation for strategic Aqueerians this September. Venus in Scorpio will place new emphasis on career goals and Mars in Virgo will turn your attention to the bottom line and the deep undercurrents in your personal goals. Can you be bought? Are you in the markdown section for last years' models?

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

Give full range to your most expansive and global ideas this September as Venus will highlight anything having to do with travel and far reaching enterprises and Mars will jumpstart any dormant or tired relationship. The sky's the limit and success will be assured for any new and promising idea or pet project. Grab for the gold ring, Guppie. With any luck, it will be a nipple ring...

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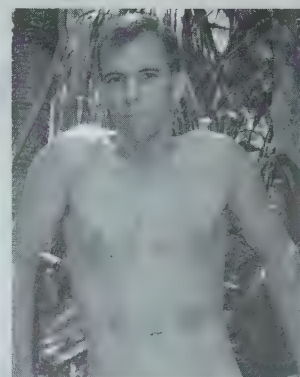
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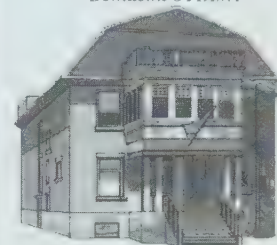


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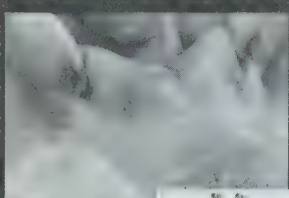
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Terms of Endowment

From: Raging Stallion Studios



Featuring: Michael Brandon, Sky Donovan, Michael Soldier, Jack Ryan, Tom Shannon, Nate Summers

Running Time: 90 minutes

Recently, during a visit to West Hollywood, *Outlooks* encountered the legendary porn star Michael Brandon, who was hosting a poolside barbecue at the San Vicente Hotel. Michael not only has a great body with a foot-long masterpiece, but he's also a genuinely nice guy. His poolside show was more than barbecued hot dogs and burgers as he entertained hundreds of attendees well into the dark of night. You can imagine the surprise when this video arrived at our offices for review! The title says it all as Michael's amazing endowment rules this movie and overshadows the other cast members who, on their own, would otherwise be extremely well endowed.

The movie begins with Michael and his lover deciding what to do for the upcoming weekend. Michael wants to have a "piggy weekend" but his lover Tom Shannon would prefer to relax at home. Tom is dressing for work but Michael decides to seduce him into having early morning sex so he can convince him that a "piggy" weekend is a must. Tom doesn't stand a chance as he submits to Michael's awesome persuasive talents. After wild, frenzied bathroom sex, it's not hard for Tom to agree to another wild weekend. He heads off to work while Michael revels in being the master of his domain.

However, Michael has an ulterior motive for going away for the "piggy"

weekend. As soon as he's alone, he invites his friend Jack Ryan to come over and spend the weekend with a pal. It's open house and Michael's friends are all invited to enjoy the fun of the "piggy, piggy" weekend. As the guests arrive and make themselves at home, Michael circulates trying to make everyone happy. In the kitchen, the hot tub, the living room and just about every room in the house there are guests enjoying wild sex and great hospitality from their super-hung host. Without a doubt, the hot tub provides the best location and Michael and Sky Donovan spend some quality relaxing time together.

By the time you come to the end of this movie, you'll probably be packing your bags for a weekend getaway at the San Vicente in West Hollywood. Be sure to book early!

Review sponsored by Express Video, #202-11745
Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, (780) 482-7480

Email: exec.express@shaw.ca

RATING: OUT OF FIVE POSSIBLE STARS

MUSIC: ★★★★★

SET: ★★★★★

BODIES: ★★★★★

STORY: ★★

ACTION SCENES: ★★★★★

Absolute Aqua

From: Falcon Studios



Featuring: Lane Fuller, Anthony Lafont, Matt Spencer, Dylan Reece, Josh Stone, Clint Williamson, Tony Cirillo, David Coleman, Jake Slade, Paul Miller, Spike

Running Time: 90 minutes

Every once in a while, there's a porn movie where the best parts are not just on the stars, but the scenery and camera work are also exceptional. *Absolute Aqua* is exceptional for the wonderful beach locations with crystal-clear blue oceans and white sands as the setting for some of the hottest, sexiest male action. In addition, the camera work and editing make this a truly seductive movie guaranteed to leave the viewer waiting for a sequel.

The cast is comprised of some of the hottest men in the business, who obviously made the gym their home for a long time before this movie was shot. Some of the most perfect abs, pecs and rock-hard butts have been selected by Falcon to star in this movie. It's truly a cast of gods stranded on a desert island with incredible beaches and secluded spots ideal for open-air sex. Whether it's the Mediterranean or the Caribbean, these are the best romantic beaches for male seduction. Great music and the sounds of the ocean and nature round out this really hot production.

Falcon Studios has chosen some of their hottest "gymnasts" with perfect bodies for this romp in the sand. Whenever Spike is starring in a movie, you know something big is going to happen and the rest of the cast has to live up to

his enormous reputation. Fortunately, this all-star cast would put a smile on every size queen's face and the best of the best come together to make this a perfect seduction.

The aqua blue water rippling over the bodies on the sand is just the start of the sexual adventure. It progresses to the rocky edges of the beaches and the lush tropical gardens inland from the ocean. In every location, a twosome or foursome will delight you with hot action under the sunny blue skies. No wonder the heat comes rippling off the screen in waves! Although there's no story to this movie, there's enough inspiration for any viewer to create their own scenario to go along with the romantic, sexy scenes.

Review Sponsored by Rainbow Pride Resource Centre

L100 822 1st Avenue SW, Calgary
(403) 266-56985

RATING: OUT OF FIVE POSSIBLE STARS

MUSIC: ★★★★★

SET: ★★★★★

BODIES: ★★★★★

STORY: ?

ACTION SCENES: ★★★★★

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QUEERWORD

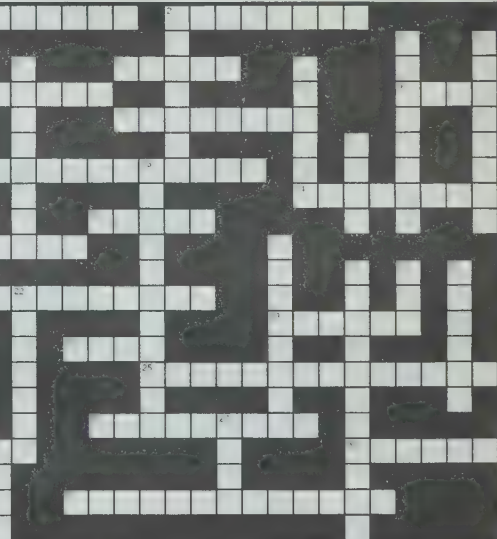
clues & words by Outlooks staff
answers on Page 41

Across

- 1) Gay club-hub of Palm Springs
- 2) Chelsea Boy Soiree's arrested clubland boss
- 6) Gay Games title: "Under New _____"
- 8) Winnipeg-based skydiving fundraiser
- 9) This *Absolute* flick is set in a porno paradise
- 10) Canada's first out broadcaster: Laurier
- 12) Irish comic returning to PrideVision
- 14) In 18 months, he's outta here!
- 15) Openly gay senator temporarily leading the Australian Democrats
- 16) Pattern of cover model's over-shirt
- 21) Almost-censored documentary: _____ vs. Little Sister's
- 23) Style of shirt worn by Don't You Wish! model
- 24) Lagerfeld, Lohnes or "Mr. Manifesto" Marx
- 25) *Terms of Endowment*'s amply equipped leading man
- 26) This *Outlooks* staff member recently moved on
- 28) Teatro Berdache's Steve or tonic's best friend
- 30) U of Winnipeg's GLBT support program: Identifying _____
- 31) Canada Customs-beseiged bookstore

Down

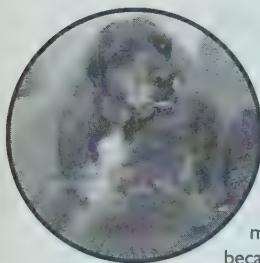
- 1) Minister Copps' portfolio or old-



- time Calgary park
- 2) This type of chair has no arms
- 3) Cher's daughter or virtuous quality
- 4) A plane from this country recently rejected a passenger with AIDS
- 5) Plan a vacation in this perfect Puerto
- 7) Province that comes out on top in its *Outlooks* report card
- 11) Type of car or guest columnist Catherine
- 13) Teatro Berdache's fall production: Quietly _____
- 17) Vancouver and this city celebrated Pride on August 4

- 18) These mountains surround our Travel story Puerto
- 19) Zodiac sign or Jon Wiebe's hip clothing boutique
- 20) Shoe company started by an architect
- 21) Don't You Wish! model or French for "beautiful"
- 22) Team Vancouver media liaison: Kevin _____
- 27) This club recently re-opened in Winnipeg
- 29) "Performance pieces" for Living section are from this company

DEAR FREDDY



Dear Freddy,

I'm facing a crisis right now that has shaken me to the very core of my being. I've been out of the closet for many years now and I think I've come to the horrible conclusion that it was all a mistake. You see, the more I sleep with guys, the more I don't think I like it. Every time I'm in the sack, I feel like I should just hurry up and get it over with so my partner can get out. I don't know what the problem is because I am sexually attracted to guys, it's just that I don't like the actual sex. Is it really possible that I'm a closet hetero? Please help;

this is really bugging me.

Breeder?

Dear Breeder?,

Okay, just calm down and look at this rationally before you go running out to call those "Ex-Gay" jackasses, sweetheart. From where I'm sitting, your problem seems relatively simple (so do you, actually, but I'm far too polite to bring that up). It seems to me that your problem really lies in the act, not the attraction, and that doesn't make you straight. What it makes you is a bad lay—or at least someone who gravitates towards other bad lays. Are you an exclusive top or exclusive bottom? Maybe you've been miscast. Is religion making you feel guilty about your sexuality? Try going to brunch on Sunday instead of church. Maybe you're just one of those people who isn't hardwired to bounce from partner to partner with ease (that would technically make you a lesbian, I think). Here's a tip: try getting to know someone before jumping in the sack with them—you know, a personal connection can do wonders for your personal connections. If that doesn't work, you can still resort to whacking off over dirty magazines; after all, it's safer and cheaper than dating and you don't even have to pop out of bed to make breakfast for your Blueboy babe or Mandate muffin. Mayday, Breeder?, mayday—all hands on dick. Hope this helps;

much love.

Fred

Dear Freddy,

I have a very serious problem that I hope you can help me out with. I am a forty-plus male with a very small penis, as well as one small testicle. Now, I feel I am abnormal and it is holding me back from possibly starting a relationship or even getting to know someone out there. I'm very embarrassed by the size of my genitals—so much so that I'm scared to get involved with anyone, thinking I will get rejected and word will spread around the community. I would like your opinion on this matter; as I've always read your advice on other situations. I do hope you are able to suggest something that may ease my mind on the subject and hopefully get me dating and possibly into a relationship. Thanks, Freddy.

Such A Tiny Thing

Dear Tiny Thing,

Mercy me—you are in a pickle, aren't you? (Judging from your letter, I'd say it's probably a baby dill.) How sad it must be to find out that you "come up short" in the grand genital scheme of things, particularly when it seems that all males born after 1980 are walking around with Presto logs in their pants (we won't get into that whole burning sensation thing right now). Perhaps you're looking at this whole size situation in the wrong way; after all, the measure of a man is not always determined in inches (in your case, try centimeters—metric always makes thing sound better). Are you smart? Funny? Have a good job? Kind heart? Tight bum? C'mon, Tiny Thing, work with me here. Look, if you're really that hung up on not being hung, there are certain procedures guaranteed to help you become a full-fledged "member" of the Big Dick Club. For example, have you thought about penile enhancement? If not, log on to www.penisdoctor.com/prosthesis.htm and see what the experts have to say. After all, if your tiny todger is giving you that much grief, you should look into getting it "adjusted". And while they're at it, they could probably install a bit of Play-Doh or a big macramé bead or something down there to replace your absent testicle. A word of warning, mind you: if you decide to take that route go easy on the expansion, if you know what I mean. Putting a Godzilla-sized appendage on someone like you would be like having a contractor attach Versailles to a mobile home. Let me know how it goes, Tiny—I'm "rooting" for you.

Freddy

P.S. Your tale of woe has a familiar ring to it—have you posed the same question before? Doesn't matter, really—if your winkle is still weenie and it's bothering you, you might as well look after it.

Write to me, Dearest!

All letters become the property of Outlooks and are subject to editing.

Write to: Dear Freddy, c/o Outlooks,

Box 439, Suite 100,

1039 17th Ave. S.W. Calgary, AB T2T 0B2

or e-mail to: editor@outlooks.ca

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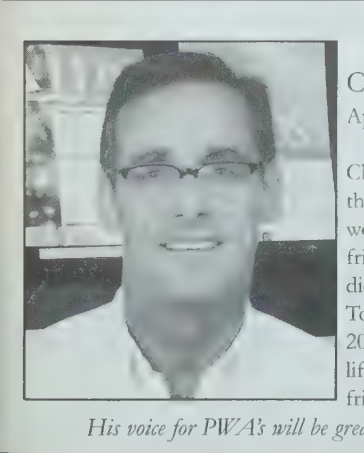
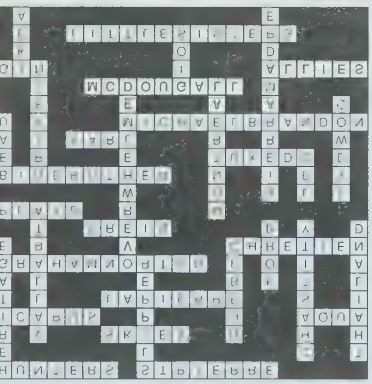
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Take out an event listing in Outlooks

Crossword solution - Puzzle on page 38



In Loving Memory
Charles M Roy, DSW
April 6, 1955 - August 24, 2002
Charles Michael Roy, Executive Director of the AIDS Committee of Toronto, social worker, activist, educator, mentor, confidant, friend and person living with HIV/AIDS, died from complications of HIV at the Toronto Hospital on Saturday, August 24, 2002. Charles died in the company of his life partner Jay Hood and many of his close friends.
His voice for PWAs will be greatly missed by many across Canada.

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ALBERTA

CALGARY
Community Groups
AIDS Calgary.....2900
Apollo Friends in Sports, GLBT.....3000
Buck Naked Boys Club.....2028
Camp 181- Women's Social Group.....2001
Children Need Support Too.....2059
Fairy Tales, Film Festival.....2054
Gay Fathers.....2090
Gay Teachers and Friends.....2019
GLASS.....2222
GLCSA.....2052
Integrity.....2020
Men's Project.....2016
Metropolitan Community Church.....2010
Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation.....3220
PFLAG Calgary.....2018
Pride Calgary.....2850
Real Me.....2056
Rocky Mountain Cruisers Car Club.....2022
SHARP Foundation.....2830
Speak Sebastian.....2024
Stepping Out.....2400
Team Calgary.....2870
Urban Sex - Radio Show.....4200
Victorian Matriarchal Academy.....3210
The Verge.....2461

CALGARY
Businesses
11 St Lodging.....2450
Rainbow Destinations.....2092
Money-Pennies.....2444
Rainbow Pride Resource Centre.....2440
Randy Harris, Clinical Social Worker.....2448
Calgary Eagle.....2450
Conference Centre at Country Gardens.....2441
Enstasy Counselling Services.....2442

EDMONTON
Community Groups
Buck Naked Boys Club of Edmonton.....2040
Dignity.....2012
Gay Men's Wednesday Coffee Evening.....2021
GLCCE.....2860
Kairos House.....2047
Long Yang Club.....2025
Men's Support Group.....2042
Outreach (U of A).....2029
PFLAG.....2045
Police Liaison Committee.....2038
Prime Timers of Edmonton.....2044
The Curtain Rises.....2880
The Edmonton Vodal Minority.....4210
The Edmonton Ice Breaker.....4220
Curling with pride.....4230

EDMONTON
Businesses
Cosmetics by Karen.....2525
The Fly Bar.....2520

LETHBRIDGE
AIDS Connection Society.....2015
GALA/LA.....2014

MEDICINE HAT
SOS LesBiGay youth.....4240
PFLAG Medicine Hat.....4250
LGBT Society of Medicine Hat.....4260

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SYPHILIS ALERT CONTINUES!
Edmonton and Calgary have seen a rise in the number of cases of syphilis in the last few months.
Facts about syphilis:
It is passed on by having sex, including blow jobs, hand jobs, rimming and anal sex
If you are infected you may not have any obvious symptoms, but it can be picked up on a blood test
It is curable
It has serious health effects if not treated
Increases your chance of getting HIV
If you:
Have a sore on the penis or around the anus or in the mouth or back of throat (usually painless)
Had anonymous or unprotected (no condoms) oral or anal sex
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romance

Box 2781: I'm 39, handsome, very hairy, moustache, shaved head, easy-going type of guy, great sense of humour, love the outdoors, canoeing, fishing, camping, rollerblading. I love animals, love to walk my dog and on my time off, I like to stay home and cook and be with someone romantic. Although I'm HIV positive, I'm very healthy, take care of myself through diet and exercise, looking for someone compatible, who is dark skin, dark hair and eye, non-smoker, beefy, stocky or even a chunky build

Box 1497: I'm Ken, 42, bi male, 6', 160lb, looking for someone who is very passionate, love to be kissed, caressed, love lots of body contact, love lots of oral, smooth bodied, preferably slim, Asian but would love to hear from anyone out there. I'd love to spend the day in bed, making love and fall asleep in each other's arms.

Box 2202: I'm 24, brown hair, green eyes, straight aching and looking, professionally employed. I have a post secondary education, love to cook, love to rollerblade and snowboard. I'm looking for guys around my age, around 32, prefer no one younger than 22, a guy who is honest and down-to-earth.

Box 2683: I'm 39, looking to get together with someone urgently. I'm 200lb, long black hair, brown eyes, very good-looking and I just need someone to be there for me and I'll be there for them anytime. I love the outdoors and going places.

Box 2869: I'm 35, looking to meet up with a guy, 28-35. I'm 6'3", brown hair, blue eyes, 210lb, and workout about 4-5 times a week. I like camping, hiking, mountain biking, movies, and quiet times

friendship & hanging out

Box 2891: I'm calling from Calgary Southwest and I'm looking for someone for a relationship, 25-35, with black hair and brown eyes, a kind person for good conversation.

Box 2946: I'm Fong, 25, 6', average build, interested in meeting people for friendship and possible relationship.

Box 2539: I'm mid 40s, 155lb, Oriental, looking for some friends to hang out with, have coffee, have a walk, go to movies, swimming, tennis, jogging, golf

Box 2598: Very horny, good-looking guy, looking to get together with another horny good-looking guy for fun.

Box 2616: I'm 40, look younger, looking for easy-going guys who wear glasses and has a moustache hopefully or Asian. I have brown hair, beard, 200lb

Box 2888: I'm 31, recently divorced, looking for buddies to hang out with and possibly casual encounters or a relationship.

phone buddies

Box 1596: This 50 year old sitting back, stroking his cock, love to listen to other people's fantasy or tell his own, love to get off over the phone and maybe a meeting later with someone with a big cock. I like it up my ass.

one night stands

Box 1773: I'm an Asian guy, very attractive, really horny, always looking for someone to fool around with. I'm 28, toned body, and good tanned.

Box 2541: I'm in my mid 40s, 5'8", 155lb, Oriental. I have my own place and can also travel

Box 2701: I'm George, 55. I love all kinds of licking. I love to lick and really rim. I'm well-endowed and also like to swallow

Box 2704: I'm Jake, mid thirties, great shape looking to get together tonight

Box 2768: I'm John, very kinky, very intimate, ready when you are.

Box 2780: I'm a white guy, 28, 160lb, hazel eyes, very attractive, brown hair, blond highlights, 7", more of a bottom, looking for hot guys in the downtown area, guys who know what they want and well-endowed. Blond and blue eyes are assets, take care of yourself pretty well. I'm always horny and looking for a couple or group of guys.

Box 2825: I'm a young guy, Native, 20, looking for guys that are cute, masculine, ethnic origin, dark skin, Arabic, Spanish or Native. I'm 5'10", 155lb, with a swimmer's build, short black hair, good-looking.

Box 2843: Looking to get together with someone 18-27. I look after myself, 5'9", 155lb, brown hair and eyes, clean-shaven, tanned, fairly smooth, love the outdoors, blading, biking.

Box 2856: Hot, horny, 30, 5'9", 155lb, short brown hair, clean-shaven, looking for some fuck and suck action. I'm clean, safe, and you should be too. No strings attached

Box 2871: Hot white guy, looking for Latinos to hook up with, 5'7", 135lb, smooth body, shaved, muscular, brown hair, blue eyes, short hair, masculine, looking to hookup and foreskin is a big turn-on.

Box 2874: Attached male downtown, looking to hookup, love to suck, swallow, rim, kiss, get fucked, poppers, bareback, pretty open.

Box 2883: I'm 40, muscular, hairy chest, great ass and legs, 7-1/2" uncult, love being a bottom, a top with the right guy, generally though I'm a bottom and I love it. I looking for a fellow, same age frame, fit, preferably a top, and a guy who can visit me now and then or maybe we can hook together at his place. Lots of sneaky things, love to have a secret relationship with a guy or several guys, love to get into group action.

Box 2911: I'm a top looking for a submissive bottom, 35, 5'10", 150lb, not bad looking.

Box 2934: I'm Greg, looking for a top or bottom

transsexual & transgender relationships

Box 1479: Single white male, early 40s, 5'10", 160lb, slim, 31" waist, 6 1/2" cut, clean-shaven, short hair, hazel eyes, safe and discreet, looking for the same, do prefer cut guys, enjoy watching XXX films, cross-dressing in silky lingerie. I really enjoy kissing, cuddling, caressing, also enjoy chatting over the phone and can be talked into group action as long as it is safe and discreet.

Box 2647: I'm Joey, gay, 26, clean, discreet, 7" cock, into oral, anal, giving and receiving, with other guys. Blacks, Asians preferred, also like white, uncult/out, doesn't matter. I'd also like to get together with a crossdresser or shemale.

group scenes & public sex

Box 2865: I'm a very fit, attractive, muscular, 33, 167lb, 31" waist, 42" chest, bottom, 7" cut, shaved, smooth, little bit of chest hair, looking for other guys like myself for group scenes.

total tops

Box 2939: I'm 5'10", slim, smooth, nice tanned, brown hair and eyes, goatee, looking for a nice bottom to have a good time with who is fairly compatible. I'm into mountain biking, horse back riding, spending time outdoors.

submissive bottoms

Box 2853: I'm Brett, 35, 6', blond hair, blue eyes, 230lb, submissive bottom, enjoy sucking cock, swallowing, being told what to do, porno, very open-minded, like to have my ass played with, like being submissive and being told what to do, serious replies only.

first-timers & bi guys

Box 1286: Just checking to see if anyone wants to get together. I'm mid 40s, 5'8", 155lb, Oriental

Box 1648: I'm 23, bottom guy, very cute, good-looking, 7 1/2" uncult, looking for very well-built, rugged, masculine tops for fun times. Like guys with dark hair and who take control

Box 2368: Attractive, sexy, passionate, bi male, slim, tanned, 6'1", 180lb, 38, 7" cut cock, shaved balls, very sexy, very passionate, playful, open-minded, sometimes naughty, love to play.

Box 2813: I'm 6'2", 180lb, 7-1/2", new to the scene

Box 2875: Slim, fit, 5'8", 130lb, brown hair, brown eyes, moustache, goatee, buzz cut, very discreet, looking for other guys between 20-34 for hot times, very open-minded about what I get into.

Box 2889: I'm bi, like dressing up a little, like fooling around, a little bit inexperienced.

Box 2892: I'm 23, 6'3", slim build, first time, willing to travel.

Box 2906: Good-looking cock-sucker, 5'10", 150lb, muscular build, moderately hairy, looking for another masculine guy in his mid 30s or older, preferable married or bi, looking for discreet encounters only

Box 2908: I'm 20, 5'10", 145lb, bi male, inexperienced, looking to get into the scene.

leather & SM

Box 2791: Dominant male, 5'11", 175lb, dark brown hair, hazel eyes, looking for submissive males

bears & big men

Box 2710: I'm early 40s, 6', dark hair, moustache, 245lb, 7" cut, into very hot romantic times, lots of passion, lots of tongue kissing,

ripple play, giving oral and receiving oral. I like the taste of what cums with it and hope you do too. I also would like to learn to be a bottom for a very hot guy, somebody who likes to take it slow and gentle. I also like to wear g-strings, into poppers and movies.

fetishes, kink & raunch

Box 2937: Straight looking top, very masculine, looking for a submissive bottom, very slender and slim and ready to serve. I'm 6'2", 180lb, brown hair, blue eyes, 8 1/2" cut, I expect my bottom boy to be obedient, suck dick on command and who understands that disobedience will result in a spanking over my lap.

transgender & trans admirers

Box 2799: I'm Antonio, calling from Calgary, professionally employed, 5'11", muscular fit build, bi-curious, looking to meet a transgender or a couple where he is bi for get togethers and fun times and go from there.

Box 2928: I'm 30, professional male, looking for transvestites or transsexuals or she males. I'm very attractive and know how to take care of a lady.

shemales & crossdressers

Box 2727: I'm Andrew, 48, youthful male, live alone, fun-loving, looking to meet someone who would share an intimate fantasy and wear some sexy under and showoff. I'm 5'8", 150lb, slim, social drinker and smoker and would love to hear from someone.

Box 2755: I'm attractive, bi, crossdresser, looking for a dominant, I'm 5'11", 160lb, slim build, 39, looking for bondage, discipline, anything kinky.

Box 2761: I'm Tricia, 6', 160lb, crossdresser, blue eyes, blond or red hair, slim build, long legs, looking for other transgender girls to have intimate encounters with. I'm 28, and well-endowed



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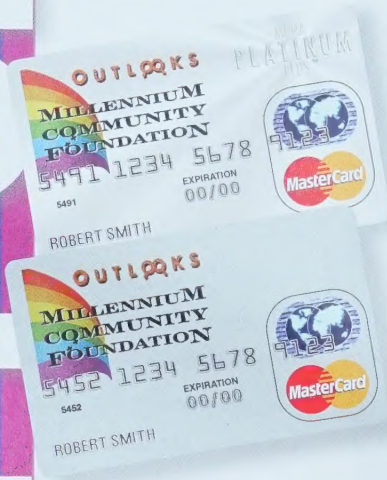


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